BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BUREAU OF STATE AUDITS (BSA)

In the matter of

Citizens Redistricting Commission (CRC) Applicant Review Panel (ARP) Public Meeting

> 555 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor, Suite 455 Sacramento, CA 95814

> > TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2010 9:30 A.M.

Reported by: Peter Petty

APPEARANCES

Members Present

Kerri Spano, Meeting Chair

Raul Villanueva, Her Assistant

Nasir Ahmadi

Lynne Reich, His Assistant

Mary Camacho

Bob La Liberte, Her Assistant

Staff Present

Stephanie Ramirez-Ridgeway, Panel Counsel

Diane Hamel, Executive Secretary

Also Present

Public Comment

Jim Wright

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- 2 JULY 20, 2010 9:31 A.M.
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: The hour being 9:31 a.m., and a
- 4 quorum being present. Let's begin. We are going to
- 5 reconvene from yesterday's meeting. Secretary, would you
- 6 please call the roll?
- 7 MS. HAMEL: Mr. Ahmadi Here; Ms. Camacho Here;
- 8 Ms. Spano Here.
- 9 CHAIR SPANO: Well, yesterday we completed a lot
- 10 of work and I just want to go over a little bit and recap
- 11 what we did. Yesterday, we selected an interview schedule
- 12 that will have us conducting five interviews per day,
- 13 every business day between August 4th and September 9th -
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGWAY: August 6th and September
- 15 13th, I am sorry.
- 16 CHAIR SPANO: Oh, okay. In addition, we
- 17 eliminated 142 Applicants for whom none of us made a
- 18 favorable recommendation. We also identified 40
- 19 Applicants who are neither Democrat or Republicans, who
- 20 will be interviewed beginning August 6^{th} . We also
- 21 eliminated the rest of the other Applicants and,
- 22 essentially, today we are going to do the same thing with
- 23 the sub-pool of Republicans.
- 24 I know the Bureau will update the Website as soon
- 25 as practicable. It is my understanding that, if you are

- 1 identified as an Applicant we would like to interview, the
- 2 Bureau will be contacting you regarding how and when you
- 3 will schedule your interview and, if necessary, arrange
- 4 your travel. So, please check your e-mail on a regular
- 5 basis so that you do not miss this important
- 6 communication.
- 7 Do any of the Panel members have any announcements
- 8 they would like to make? It is time.
- 9 MS. CAMACHO: I do not have any.
- MR. AHMADI: Neither do I.
- 11 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, then I think we should move to
- 12 the next sub-pool of Applicants, the Republicans.
- 13 Actually, is there any public comment at this time, before
- 14 we do start discussing the Republican sub-pool? Seeing no
- 15 further comment, let's move on and discuss. Actually, I
- 16 have an Applicant that I would like to discuss and bring
- 17 forward.
- 18 CHAIR SPANO: The Applicant is Gene Lee,
- 19 Applicant No. 8216. This Applicant exhibited many
- 20 strengths. He is a consensus builder, skilled in group
- 21 discussions, he is creative and willing to do what is
- 22 required for the job. He engenders trust and support, has
- 23 strong analytical skills, and experience with the public
- 24 and private group meetings. This candidate also was a
- 25 former Environmental Planning Commissioner, City of

- 1 Mountain View. He has seen both sides of the public
- 2 hearing table and participated as a parent when his school
- 3 recently redrew school boundaries, by determining which
- 4 school students would attend. He is knowledgeable in the
- 5 time of data analysis and computer work relevant to the
- 6 redistricting process. Actually, in 1984, he took the
- 7 role of environmental planning very seriously as he
- 8 introduced a no smoking ordinance in the City of Mountain
- 9 View. Mary and Nasir, how do you feel about this
- 10 candidate?
- 11 MS. CAMACHO: I also voted favorably for this
- 12 Applicant. I thought he had a clear understanding of what
- 13 was required of the Commission and each Commissioner. He
- 14 also performed public meetings where he gathered public
- 15 comment, so that was, I felt, very relevant as a
- 16 Commission, so I agree, I feel that he would be a person I
- 17 would like to have on the Tentative list for interviews.
- 18 MR. AHMADI: And I am glad that you picked this
- 19 one because, again, this was one of those that I wanted to
- 20 bring again and discuss because I agree with you, that
- 21 from the qualifications and the examples that he provides,
- 22 suggests that this individual will be very successful and
- 23 a good addition in terms of his qualities and
- 24 qualifications to do Commission work. So, I agree.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: Great, so I will move this

- 1 candidate into the Tentative pool of 40 for further
- 2 interviews and consideration. Mary and Nasir, do you have
- 3 a candidate that you would like to bring forward?
- 4 MR. AHMADI: I do, thank you. Before I get into
- 5 the specifics about those that I would like to introduce
- 6 and discuss here, I went back to my list yesterday and I
- 7 identified 17 Applicants that I would like to bring in,
- 8 and I believe that, based on my assessment of the
- 9 qualifications, most of those would be in common here, so
- 10 I am going to go to my pile and introduce the first one
- 11 here, which is Wesley Hussey. This individual has
- 12 provided excellent examples in terms of his qualifications
- 13 and the qualities that he would bring to the tasks.
- 14 Initially, I voted for this one as one of my top 40, which
- 15 I was hoping to receive three yes's, but I am very glad
- 16 that he is still in. He is probably the youngest
- 17 individual to represent part of California in the
- 18 Commission work. He is a teacher of the subject matter at
- 19 Sac State, so his knowledge of the Voters Rights Act and
- 20 the Voters First Act impressed me. He provides a very
- 21 informed understanding of those subject areas, so I would
- 22 like to have this individual reconsidered as part of the
- 23 Tentative 40.
- 24 MS. CAMACHO: I agree with you, Nasir, he was
- 25 one of my top 40 and he brings experience as a Board

- 1 person, so he understands what is required of sitting up
- 2 here and talking to individuals and conducting himself, he
- 3 was also he has frequent contact with the media, so he
- 4 is very familiar with public speaking and presentations,
- 5 so, I agree, I would like to see him in our Tentative
- 6 pool.
- 7 MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 8 CHAIR SPANO: I agree. I just will add a few
- 9 comments to this because I agree with both of you, this I
- 10 a teacher that teaches California Politics, and when he
- 11 teaches his students, he focuses on also exercises about
- 12 the power of redistricting, I found that very interesting
- 13 and very relevant. He has a strong knowledge base on
- 14 redistricting, he also integrates statistics and analysis
- 15 data with his Social Science issues that he imparts on his
- 16 students. He has mapping experience and is basically an
- 17 educator that taught on subjects such as voting. I agree
- 18 this is a strong candidate, and I agree with both of you
- 19 that his Applicant should definitely be moved in the pool
- 20 for further consideration.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- MS. CAMACHO: I have an Applicant that I would
- 23 like to have us consider. His name is Jeffrey Kwong. I
- 24 was so impressed with this young man's community
- 25 involvement, him being so young and how much he has been

- 1 able to put into his application of showing that
- 2 involvement. Also, he is multilingual, so he can speak
- 3 Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and some limited Spanish. He
- 4 has been the Executive Director of the Ms. Asian American
- 5 Pageant, which deals with is kind of linked with the
- 6 Cancer Society, correct, Bob? Liver Institute. So, there
- 7 is also that aspect, so I would really like to have him be
- 8 considered for an interview.
- 9 MR. AHMADI: Mary, thank you. I have a few
- 10 comments to make about this candidate, and probably
- 11 walking into the meeting, I had an unfavorable vote for
- 12 this individual, and the reason for that was that I was a
- 13 little concerned about his experience in limited
- 14 employment history because this is a young individual, but
- 15 when I look at the description of the responsibilities
- 16 that he had as part of his employment, it appeared to me
- 17 that he never had a permanent position as a teacher, but
- 18 he is sort of referring to "my classroom" and "my
- 19 students," and all that. But that was only, to be honest,
- 20 not that significant in my assessment, but when I compared
- 21 to other Applicants in the pool, I thought maybe, at the
- 22 minimum, we could probably ask this question in an
- 23 interview, to make sure that, you know, we have considered
- 24 that aspect of the qualifications for this individual.
- 25 Other than that, I agree with you that this individual has

- 1 the qualifications, and I would be happy to put him back
- 2 into the candidate list.
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 4 MS. CAMACHO: Kerri, do you -
- 5 CHAIR SPANO: Yes, I do. I believe this
- 6 Applicant exhibits strengths unique to his area. He
- 7 actually displays a commitment to civic empowerment and
- 8 public service. In addition to being bilingual, he is
- 9 able to listen to both sides of an issue very clearly. He
- 10 is very committed to diverse population's issues. One of
- 11 his letters says that he answers to the diversity of a
- 12 group. I think he is very proactive and resourceful in
- 13 trying to seek both sides of the story. I think his
- 14 talents and skills would be an asset to the Commission. I
- 15 believe that this candidate also should move forward to
- 16 the Tentative pool of 40.
- MS. CAMACHO: Okay, thank you. And, definitely,
- 18 Nasir, with your comment, we can bring up that one concern
- 19 that you have.
- 20 CHAIR SPANO: I would like to bring forward for
- 21 discussion Applicant Peggy Huang. Her number is 1458
- MS. CAMACHO: Is it -
- 23 CHAIR SPANO: H-u-a-n-q. This Applicant, I felt
- 24 that, based on her qualifications, the Applicant appeared
- 25 to display very strong application overall, she is a

	1	former	California	State	Senate	Fellow,	knowledgeable	about
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- 2 water rights, she has board experience, and understands
- 3 people that are new to this country and the needs and
- 4 their issues. Her parents emigrated from Taiwan and she
- 5 had a great personal story that related to California.
- 6 She has lived in many places throughout the state, so she
- 7 had good recognitions of community interests. She also is
- 8 an attorney, I believe, and worked for the State Senate
- 9 Committee. She has great public experience and an
- 10 education that is suitable for the Commission. Mary and
- 11 Nasir, what are your thoughts?
- MS. CAMACHO: Originally, I voted for her
- 13 unfavorably, but after listening to what you are saying,
- 14 the concern I had was her community involvement, but you
- 15 are bringing up valid points, where she is an immigrant,
- 16 she is involved, and the concern that I have, I think, is
- 17 not as important. And I kind of would like to interview
- 18 her to ask her some questions. So, yes, I think we should
- 19 put her on the Tentative list.
- MR. AHMADI: And I agree, again, this is one of
- 21 those Applicants that I had on my list to introduce for
- 22 discussion, and hopefully bring back to the pool. And the
- 23 reason, of course, I agree with you that the caliber of
- 24 qualities and experience, I believe, makes this individual
- 25 very successful for the tasks of the Commission. And one

1	other	thing	that	impressed	me	is	the	fact	that	this

- 2 individual has worked both with Democrats and Republicans,
- 3 and in one of the public comments that we received on June
- 4 28th, 2010, the response to the public comment convinced me
- 5 that this individual is also great for impartiality and
- 6 diversity, so I would like to keep her in the pool.
- 7 CHAIR SPANO: Great. We will move Peggy Huang
- 8 to the Tentative pool of 40.
- 9 MR. AHMADI: I have an Applicant that I would
- 10 like to have you consider for putting back into the
- 11 Tentative pool of 40. This Applicant is Jodie Filkins
- 12 Webber. I voted favorable for this individual coming into
- 13 the meeting and I am glad that she is still in, and we can
- 14 discuss this. This individual brings good qualities in
- 15 terms of the qualifications for diversity, and her
- 16 response and understanding of California's diverse
- 17 demographics and geography impressed me, as well. She
- 18 became an attorney because of a family need, so that told
- 19 me a lot about this individual's drive and commitment, and
- 20 sticking to family values and all that. So, without going
- 21 into the details, I would like to have you guys consider
- 22 this individual as a qualified application to be
- 23 considered for the Commission's work.
- MS. CAMACHO: I agree with you, Nasir. I wanted
- 25 to bring this particular Applicant forward. I was really

- 1 impressed with her Civic duties and the mentoring of
- 2 incarcerated youth.
- 3 MR. AHMADI: Right.
- 4 MS. CAMACHO: Also, her ability to not to be
- 5 able to talk to people, and her hearing experience, so she
- 6 would be a good listener at public meetings. So, I agree,
- 7 we should definitely put her in the Tentative pool.
- 8 MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 9 CHAIR SPANO: I agree with both of your comments
- 10 about this Applicant. This Applicant impressed me. She
- 11 is an attorney and she actually has been involved in class
- 12 actions requiring complex studies and diverse legal issues
- 13 and class member matrix studies of demographics to
- 14 determine commonality for a class. And I thought that was
- 15 a key qualification that would be helpful as a
- 16 Commissioner. I agree with both of you, I believe this
- 17 candidate should move forward to the Tentative pool of 40.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 19 MS. CAMACHO: I would like to bring Detta Hunt
- 20 up for discussion. This individual has numerous relevant
- 21 skills. She has worked with lower economic individuals.
- 22 She has an understanding of public testimony, data
- 23 analysis, and stakeholders meetings, which I think are
- 24 very relevant for this as a Commissioner. I would like to
- 25 have her be considered.

1	MR. AHMADI: And on this application, I have a
2	few comments that I would like to share and perhaps the
3	main reason that I did not vote as favorable for this one
4	coming to this meeting, was the overall - my assessment or
5	the overall qualifications, so there was nothing in
6	particular that stood out to be a reason for saying
7	unfavorable, but looking back at the qualifications and
8	looking back at our initial review back in April, I do see
9	that there are certain qualifications that makes me very
10	comfortable to bring her back in. For example, when I
11	look at the Interest Statement, I have some comments here
12	for myself to remember, "very thoughtful statements and
13	writing skills are great." Responses to other
14	qualifications, related essays, impressed me, as well.
15	Again, nothing in particular that I can share here in
16	terms of detail, but in general terms, the only concern I
17	had was the overall qualifications was not perceived as
18	being most qualified at that time. But now that you
19	mention those specific points, I would be glad to bring
20	her back in for reconsideration, so I agree with you.
21	MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.
22	CHAIR SPANO: Mary, I like this candidate also.
23	I actually was impressed with her analytical skills and
24	the amount of responsibility this Applicant has in her
25	job. She developed a new name for the Food Stamp Program

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1	T11	California,	THVILING	ana	managing	d	arverse	WOLK	group

- 2 of stakeholders to develop and recommend a new name. She
- 3 has experience working with a variety of agencies
- 4 representatives of several food security and hunger
- 5 advocacy groups, Latino advocacy groups. She has worked
- 6 collaboratively with work groups. I believe her skills
- 7 and strengths are directly relevant for Commission work,
- 8 and I also believe she should be moved to the Tentative
- 9 pool of 40.
- MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.
- 11 CHAIR SPANO: The next Applicant I would like to
- 12 bring forward for discussion is Applicant David Ikari, I-
- 13 k-a-r-i, Applicant No. 3368. This Applicant impressed me
- 14 with his superior public sector experience. He was
- 15 appointed by the Governor to serve on the California
- 16 Performance Review. He has strong Commission experience
- 17 and analytical skills, he has served as a Branch Chief at
- 18 the Dairy Marketing Branch for the California Food and
- 19 Agriculture for 36 years, he has got a solid understanding
- 20 of the pricing and economics about that. He has very
- 21 strong commission experience in analyzing data. He is a
- 22 bridge builder, also. And I think he will be good in
- 23 contentious situations where he can be a peacemaker also
- 24 in public meetings.
- MS. CAMACHO: Originally, I was concerned with

1	his	responses,	that	were	reallv	kind	of	technical,	and	Ι

- 2 was worried about him being able to communicate with
- 3 everybody; however, hearing what you said, and also kind
- 4 of seeing that he has had public hearing experience, even
- 5 though it was in regard to milk pricing, I would like to
- 6 be able to interview him. I think it would be beneficial
- 7 to put him on the Tentative list.
- 8 MR. AHMADI: And let me share with you the main
- 9 reason I had an unfavorable vote for this candidate. And
- 10 this is something that probably we need to do, a research
- 11 request, just to make sure, but within the details of the
- 12 interest statement, the individual states that, "In
- 13 addition to my professional work experience, I have served
- 14 as a volunteer member of the Sacramento County Grand
- 15 Jury," which is great, "Sacramento County Community Bank,
- 16 Grant Revenue Sharing Commission in the late 1970s," and
- 17 then there is an indication that he also worked Governor
- 18 Schwarzenegger's Performance Review. And the response to
- 19 the interest statement is a little vaque, but when I look
- 20 back at the letter of recommendation, this is the letter
- 21 of recommendation from Carol Chesbro, she is Deputy
- 22 Commissioner, Department of Finance in Financial
- 23 Institutions, so that letter of recommendation had a
- 24 statement that caused me to pause and rethink, and on the
- 25 second page towards the kind of last beginning of the

- 1 last paragraph says, "On a statewide basis, Mr. Ikari was
- 2 appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger as a member of a
- 3 select group to serve on the California Performance
- 4 Review. He was a member of the Acquisition and
- 5 Procurement Team," and it goes on to describe other
- 6 responsibilities. So, I am just sharing my concern,
- 7 initially, and I understand that we can research this, and
- 8 I am not counting this against him -
- 9 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Let me jump in and put
- 10 your fears to rest. The Bureau has already conducted its
- 11 appointment screen of all Applicants, that particular
- 12 Commission is not a State Office under the law, so there
- 13 is no prohibition that prevents him from serving.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you, that makes me feel very
- 15 comfortable to put him back in. So, I agree with the
- 16 qualifications as you described it, so I would be happy to
- 17 bring him back in.
- 18 CHAIR SPANO: I will move forward Mr. Ikari for
- 19 further consideration in the Tentative pool.
- MR. AHMADI: I would like to have you reconsider
- 21 Michael Briggs and Michael Briggs is an individual who has
- 22 a vast diverse experience and knowledge in different
- 23 areas, being an Arbitrator, Mediator, Judge Pro Temp,
- 24 community volunteer, and in terms of analytical skills, he
- 25 has knowledge in different areas, or different

- 1 professions, being a Judicial Doctor, MBA, Economics, and
- 2 also Spanish language proficiency. There are many
- 3 attributes that impressed me about this Applicant and I
- 4 would like to have him back into the pool for
- 5 reconsideration.
- 6 MS. CAMACHO: Initially, looking at this
- 7 Applicant, my concern was I did not really see a lot of
- 8 description on him working in group efforts, it was more
- 9 individual. Did that seem the same for you? Or -
- MR. AHMADI: I agree, but there was some
- 11 indication that, based on the response to the analytical
- 12 skills, and also when I look at the activities statement,
- 13 let me just point out to you, the second from last
- 14 paragraph under the activities says, "My volunteer
- 15 activities range from coaching youth athletic to
- 16 leadership role in the public school governance and pro
- 17 bono work for nonprofit organizations." So I agree that
- 18 it is general, but this individual has been involved with
- 19 community and that actually impressed me, as well.
- 20 MS. CAMACHO: And that is a very good point, it
- 21 is the community, him being able to get out into the
- 22 community and talking with the community, so I agree,
- 23 let's bring him in and interview him.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, I agree with both of you. I

- 1 understand your concerns, Mary, and I believe this
- 2 Applicant exhibits a strong legal and I believe some work
- 3 with dispute resolution as an Arbitrator, Mediator, and
- 4 Judge Pro Temp and as a Chairperson at La Jolla School
- 5 Site Governance Committee. I thought that exhibited
- 6 several skills that are necessary for Commission work.
- 7 Being a professional mediator, you are experienced in
- 8 listening to various sides of an issue and gathering
- 9 relevant facts, and I am distinguishing those from
- 10 irrelevant issues, so I feel this person most likely may
- 11 be a good listener, also, serve well in public meetings.
- 12 So I believe this candidate should be moved forward also
- 13 to the Tentative pool of 40.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- MS. CAMACHO: I would like to bring up for
- 16 consideration Vincent Barabba. This individual has worked
- 17 or he oversaw two U.S. Census Bureau's, it was in 1970
- 18 under the Nixon Administration, in 1980 which was under
- 19 the Carter Administration, so it was both a Republican and
- 20 a Democrat, he would be very familiar with the information
- 21 that is going to be gathered and used for this Commission.
- 22 I would like to and also, he has had some board
- 23 experience, so that is also something that our
- 24 Commissioners should have, if possible.
- MR. AHMADI: I agree, Mary, because this

1	individual	was	one	of	those	that	I	wanted	to	introduce	for
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- 2 reconsideration, and without going into the detail, my
- 3 perception of the qualifications and skills were
- 4 excellent, so I would be happy to put him back into the
- 5 pool.
- 6 MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.
- 7 CHAIR SPANO: I particularly liked this
- 8 candidate's strengths that he described in his
- 9 application, were directly relevant and, in addition to
- 10 you, Mary, mentioning his U.S. Census Bureau, he served as
- 11 Director for 30 years, he has knowledge directly relevant
- 12 to the Commission work, and he has received notable
- 13 experience, awards in marketing, he has experience
- 14 developing legally defensible decisions for the census, I
- 15 thought that was extremely important since he has a good
- 16 understanding of the laws and regulations associated with
- 17 voting and redistricting, so I believe this candidate is a
- 18 strong candidate and should be moved forward to the
- 19 Tentative pool of 40.
- MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.
- 21 CHAIR SPANO: Let's see, the next Applicant I
- 22 would like to move forward for discussion is Applicant
- 23 Edward Duran, D-u-r-a-n, Applicant No. 5896. This
- 24 Applicant showed strengths in school board experience, he
- 25 actually is very familiar with the Voting Rights Act. He

1	has	aood	familiarity	with	the	State	and,	from	time	to

- 2 time, has been county counsel with Orange County, he is
- 3 familiar with election law, having defended the Orange
- 4 County Registrar of Voters, he has redistricting
- 5 experience, also. I believe this candidate is a strong
- 6 candidate and we should consider to be placed in the
- 7 Tentative pool.
- 8 MS. CAMACHO: I originally I just had a
- 9 concern about some of the details of his application, but
- 10 after listening to all of those qualifications, I agree
- 11 that he should be put in the Tentative list.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you. No doubt, this
- 13 individual exhibits the qualifications and experiences
- 14 that is significant and valuable, especially for the work
- 15 of the Commission. Just to share with you a comment about
- 16 this Applicant, or maybe perhaps the reason why I was a
- 17 little hesitant is, looking back at the application, in
- 18 general, in total, I think there was a question in my mind
- 19 about the effective communication skills in terms of
- 20 writing because, you know, I know that time is precious
- 21 and this individual may not have had time to go back and
- 22 check the responses to the essays, but, you know, I can
- 23 understand that there is human factor in there, as well,
- 24 in terms of perhaps honest mistakes, but since there were
- 25 a number of spelling inaccuracies in the responses, it

- 1 caused me to pause a little bit. But, of course, as I
- 2 mentioned, I think that as secondary in terms of
- 3 qualifications, because looking back at the education, the
- 4 responsibilities that this individual had, and the
- 5 community work, and the fact that he was involved with
- 6 many commissions and committees, successfully, impressed
- 7 me, as well. So it was a difficult decision, of course,
- 8 as with many others, but that was just to share with you
- 9 to consider. But I am happy to bring him back in for
- 10 reconsideration.
- 11 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, so we will move him to the
- 12 Tentative pool of 40.
- MR. AHMADI: Is it my turn?
- 14 CHAIR SPANO: Yes.
- MR. AHMADI: Okay, sorry. Yes, I would like to
- 16 have another one of my candidates reintroduced for
- 17 consideration, this is Elizabeth Miller-Bougdanos, and I
- 18 am sorry if I mispronounced that name, B-o-u-q-d-a-n-o-s.
- 19 So this individual voted for Voters First Act and in my
- 20 assessment of her Interest Statement, and the reason why
- 21 she wants to be part of this historic process and perhaps
- 22 significantly, in her professional background, I have no
- 23 doubt that she will be successful in terms of -
- 24 MS. CAMACHO: Oh, is it Miller-Bougdanos?
- MR. AHMADI: Yes, sorry.

l MS	. CAMACHO:	Thank '	you.
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- MR. AHMADI: No problem. So, looking back at
- 3 her professional background and activity that she is
- 4 involved with, I have no doubt that she will be
- 5 successful, understanding the mechanism of the type of
- 6 work that the Commission is going to be undertaking. So,
- 7 again, one other kind of minor concern that I had
- 8 initially, but then I found that was too old, she was an
- 9 intern at the Congressional Office, but that was back in
- 10 '86, and it does not bother me in terms of impartiality
- 11 because, when I look at the response to impartiality,
- 12 there is a sufficient description of the facts that
- 13 convinced me that she will have no problem adhering and
- 14 complying with all the requirements in the Voters First
- 15 Act, so I would be glad to have this individual be
- 16 reconsidered for Tentative approval.
- MS. CAMACHO: I had just a minor concern about
- 18 her community involvement, there was not I did not see a
- 19 lot; however, after listening to all the attributes that
- 20 you have just stated, I agree that we should definitely
- 21 put her on the Tentative list.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 23 CHAIR SPANO: As I reviewed this Applicant's
- 24 materials, I believe she exhibited great communication and
- 25 outstanding stellar writing, throughout her application.

1	She	is	а	great	communicator,	she	is	also	an	attornev	y –

- 2 mediator, she has strong listening skills, and with her
- 3 strong mediation background, she would probably be
- 4 outstanding in listening to communities of interest. She
- 5 provided a solid example for the description in how she is
- 6 impartial as a mediator. She has some commission
- 7 experience, she was a volunteer mediator in LA Superior
- 8 Court's alternative dispute resolution, so I believe that
- 9 her letters of recommendation also favorably recommend
- 10 this candidate, and I think she would be a good Applicant
- 11 to move forward in the Applicant pool of 40.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- MS. CAMACHO: I would like to bring to
- 14 consideration Susan Miller. She has hearing experience,
- 15 she has worked with community colleges to help satisfy the
- 16 need of the region, she has various different analytical
- 17 skills that are rather strong and, also, reading her
- 18 letters of recommendation, I was really impressed with
- 19 what they were stating in them. So I would like to have
- 20 her considered.
- 21 CHAIR SPANO: I also was impressed by this
- 22 candidate's qualifications. She is a former or current HR
- 23 Director for NASA, she exhibits great leadership qualities
- 24 and good group skills and, as well, she is a mediator, so
- 25 she is a consensus builder. She has a lot of relevant

1	skills	that	she	can	offer	to	the	Commission.	This

- 2 candidate, I believe, I agree, should be moved forward to
- 3 the Applicant pool of 40. Nasir, how did you feel?
- 4 MR. AHMADI: Yes, and I agree with both of you
- 5 in terms of an assessment of qualifications. I think, in
- 6 addition to that experience working as a direct or Human
- 7 Resources in Management, for example, may be kind of handy
- 8 for the Commission's work. So, I will be comfortable and
- 9 happy to reassess the details of the application on this
- 10 one.
- 11 CHAIR SPANO: I would like to bring forward for
- 12 discussion Applicant Evelyn Zneimer, Z-n-e-i-m-e-r,
- 13 Applicant No. 7268. This Applicant exhibits
- 14 qualifications and, in legal, she is a trial attorney in
- 15 private practice, she has served as a Judge Pro Temp in
- 16 LA, I think all areas of her applicable skills were
- 17 relevant for Commission work, she also has applicable
- 18 board and public meetings experience. I believe this
- 19 Applicant has qualities she can offer as a commissioner
- 20 that are directly relevant. Mary and Nasir, what are your
- 21 thoughts?
- 22 MR. AHMADI: Yes. I came to this meeting with
- 23 an unfavorable vote for this one, but nothing specific,
- 24 just when I compared the overall qualifications, it did
- 25 not seem to me as being comparably competitively, but I

1	would	love	to	look	back	at	the	details	, and	especiall	V

- 2 that you mentioned certain qualifications that makes this
- 3 individual unique, I would like to go back and reassess
- 4 and I am happy to put her back into the Tentative pool of
- 5 40.
- 6 MS. CAMACHO: I was the same as Nasir in the
- 7 sense of there was not really anything specific, but
- 8 comparing to her to the others, and it has been just so
- 9 difficult trying to really look at these individuals and
- 10 determine who to bring forward because we are having such
- 11 a great pool. She does bring many skills, as Kerri was
- 12 stating, and she also has a lot of community involvement,
- 13 she volunteers at the American Cancer Society, the Parks
- 14 and Recreation, she provides pro bono work, so I
- 15 definitely would like to put her on our Tentative list to
- 16 interview.
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: Great. I will move her to that
- 18 pool.
- 19 MR. AHMADI: I had another can I move forward
- with another one?
- 21 CHAIR SPANO: Sure.
- MR. AHMADI: I had another Applicant that I
- 23 found excellent in terms of qualifications that I would
- 24 like to have you guys reassess the qualifications and the
- 25 detail on the application. This is Bev Perry. And the

- 1 University of Southern California, Assistant Director of a
- 2 program, City Council experience back in '92 to 2006, the
- 3 responses to the essays indicate that she has vast in-
- 4 depth type of experience and qualifications that will, in
- 5 my judgment, make her very successful in the work of the
- 6 Commission. And also, when I look at the letters of
- 7 recommendation, there is sufficient detail to suggest that
- 8 this individual will have the type of qualifications and
- 9 abilities and skills to make her successful for the
- 10 Commission work. And an example is being Mayor, which is
- 11 stated in one of the letters of recommendation, but I did
- 12 not see that specifically in the employment history, maybe
- 13 I overlooked something, so I will have to take a look back
- 14 at that detail, but I would like to suggest that we should
- 15 reconsider this individual as part of the Tentative 40.
- MS. CAMACHO: I agree with you, Nasir, I think
- 17 we should reconsider her. I had an initial concern with
- 18 this Applicant because she did provide a listing of her
- 19 Board experiences, I just wish she had provided a little
- 20 bit more detail so I could understand what that was, but
- 21 she did have a lot of board experience, and she did have
- 22 experience with public comments, and she does have a lot
- 23 of the experiences the Commissioners would need, and I
- 24 would like to put her on the list of Tentative
- 25 interviewees.

- 1 MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 2 CHAIR SPANO: I agree also. This Applicant was
- 3 a School District Superintendent for a school in Humboldt
- 4 County and she worked with demographic data extensively.
- 5 She has strong solid analytical skills which I think she
- 6 could apply to the Commission's work. She is very
- 7 organized, she has public experience, and she is even-
- 8 handed. I believe that this candidate is strong to be
- 9 considered for the Tentative pool of 40.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 11 MS. CAMACHO: I would like to bring -
- 12 CHAIR SPANO: You know what? We just spoke
- 13 about Bev Perry, right?
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes.
- 15 CHAIR SPANO: I just exhibited my comments about
- 16 another Applicant, I so apologize. I was trying to get
- 17 ready for my next Applicant and I just made a pitch for
- 18 the wrong person, but it is another person it is
- 19 actually another Applicant, so I apologize.
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: So before you move on,
- 21 why don't you go back to Bev Perry.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: I am moving ahead of myself again.
- 23 Let me look at my notes for a minute. I did think that
- 24 this was a very strong candidate, she has a career in
- 25 writing, very much germane to where she is from, and I

- 1 believe that is the City of Brea, and she has solid
- 2 experience in planning and government and commission
- 3 experience. She helped create a long term plan for the
- 4 Southern California Association of Governments. She
- 5 previously I believe she may have stated this already -
- 6 as City Council member of Brea and also served as Mayor.
- 7 I believe, also, her strengths are in her analytical
- 8 skills and her comfort with working with technical data,
- 9 so I believe also that her letters or recommendation
- 10 support this also. I believe this candidate should be
- 11 further considered for the Tentative pool of 40.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- MR. AHMADI: So, if I can make a suggestion,
- 14 since you have already shared some comments about another
- 15 Applicant, obviously that is one you wanted to bring in,
- 16 so maybe we can move to that one.
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: I really should clarify which
- 18 Applicant I was talking about. That gentleman's name was
- 19 Skip Jorgensen. His Applicant no. is 1915.
- MR. AHMADI: So, do you want to add anything in
- 21 addition to what you described?
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: No, now that I confused everybody,
- 23 right?
- MS. CAMACHO: That is okay.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: I did feel strongly about both

- 1 those candidates. I thought they had great
- 2 qualifications.
- 3 MR. AHMADI: I am glad in a way that you made
- 4 that mistake because this is one of my strong candidates
- 5 that I wanted to introduce, so I thank you for that. And
- 6 I agree that this individual will bring certain qualities
- 7 and qualifications that make the work of the Commission
- 8 very successful in my judgment. So, without any
- 9 hesitation, I would love to have this individual back in
- 10 the pool.
- 11 MS. CAMACHO: I agree. This is one of the
- 12 people that I wanted to discuss about also. He has been
- 13 on the Grand Jury, he has planned and conducted workshops,
- 14 he has board experience, and all the other things that
- 15 Kerri has said, so, yes, I definitely would like to put
- 16 him on the Tentative list.
- 17 MR. AHMADI: Thank you. If I may, I would like
- 18 to bring another individual.
- MS. CAMACHO: Can I?
- MR. AHMADI: Sure, sorry.
- MS. CAMACHO: I would like to bring Susan
- 22 Bowers. This Applicant has some board experience, some
- 23 public speaking, she is familiar with the Brown Act, which
- 24 is similar to the Bagley-Keene, so she is aware of what
- 25 her responsibilities will be as a Commissioner. She has

1	very	strong	letters	of	recommendations	that	Ι	was
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- 2 impressed with, and she has many experiences that the
- 3 Commissioners would need. So, I would like to have her
- 4 considered.
- 5 MR. AHMADI: I liked the qualifications for this
- 6 individual. I think, if I can just share with you a
- 7 comment about my initial assessment of why I said
- 8 unfavorable for this one, was mainly in the area of
- 9 appreciation for California's diverse demographics and
- 10 geography. I think the response in that essay did not
- 11 convince me that there was sufficient detail to help me
- 12 make the favorable decision, but, anyway, I understand
- 13 that that is one of those areas that most candidates have
- 14 most challenge in terms of their responses because, you
- 15 know, not everybody has the same level of exposure to
- 16 California as to diversity, demographic, and geography,
- 17 but that does not mean that this individual is not able to
- 18 understand. So, the demonstration of that aspect of
- 19 qualification was a little vague to me, but certainly the
- 20 understanding was there, so I do not have any problem
- 21 agreeing to put her back into the pool.
- MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.
- 23 CHAIR SPANO: I was really impressed with this
- 24 candidate's qualifications. In her question, I think it
- 25 is in her response to no. 1, she acknowledges

	1	gerrymandering	and has a	a good	example of	how it	impacted
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- 2 her life. She lives in Whittier, and where she lives is
- 3 divided into three Assembly Districts. She had good
- 4 recognition of the Citizens Redistricting Commission and
- 5 brings a background in nonprofits to the Commission, as
- 6 well as Board experience. She also has fundraising for
- 7 organizations whose missions the Applicant does not share.
- 8 I thought this Applicant and she was also appointed
- 9 Cultural Arts Commissioner in Whittier. I think this
- 10 Applicant exhibits strong qualifications that are directly
- 11 relevant for Commission work. I believe that she should
- 12 be moved into the Tentative pool of 40.
- MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.
- 14 MR. AHMADI: Thanks. Now I can move on?
- 15 CHAIR SPANO: Sure.
- 16 MR. AHMADI: I would like to have Donna Beers
- 17 back in the pool. Obviously, in my judgment she brings
- 18 certain qualifications and skills that will make the
- 19 Commission's work successful and that she is also adding
- 20 to the diversity, and I would like to have her back in the
- 21 pool because I think she brings a special aspect to the
- 22 mix of the Commissioners, being an Anthropologist, I think
- 23 there is some value in the application of the knowledge in
- 24 that field to the Commission's work. She has been a poll
- 25 inspector. Although, you know, some examples in the

1	responses	to	some	of	the	qualifications	were	not	as	clear

- 2 or as descriptive or detailed enough that I would prefer
- 3 them to be, but I would like to have this individual
- 4 considered for being part of the top 40.
- 5 MS. CAMACHO: My initial reservation was her
- 6 work history, that kind of concerned me a little bit,
- 7 however, listening to you and also understanding that she
- 8 was an owner of the Filipino Press, which I thought that
- 9 was very interesting with her background. She also has
- 10 public hearing experience, she has board experience, she
- 11 works well with groups, and definitely we need individuals
- 12 that can work with groups because there are going to be 14
- 13 members on the Commission and they are going to have to
- 14 work together. So, yes, I would like to put her on the
- 15 Tentative list to interview.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: I agree with both of you. I
- 18 believe this candidate also exhibits strong skills in
- 19 writing, in technical writing. She has done grant
- 20 writing, she has some board experience with church, small
- 21 corporations, nonprofits, so she has got a variety of
- 22 experience with that background. She has a strong example
- 23 of impartiality and she is President of the Retired
- 24 Volunteers. And she also explains her experience as a
- 25 poll worker. She values informing others of the issues

- 1 that are important on both sides.
- 2 MR. AHMADI: Correct.
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: So, I believe this candidate
- 4 exhibits abilities that are necessary for commission work
- 5 and she should go in the Tentative pool of 40.
- 6 MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 7 MS. CAMACHO: I am thinking that we have 17, is
- 8 that correct? I just want to check on this.
- 9 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: You are on 40 now. That
- 10 should not limit you, necessarily, but you are it is a
- 11 good marker.
- MS. CAMACHO: However, there are a few people
- 13 that I would like to have us consider, so I would like to
- 14 bring up another name if that is okay.
- 15 Sure. Orrin Banta. This individual is involved
- 16 in the community. He has strong relevant skills,
- 17 computers, statistics, that is kind of one of the areas I
- 18 know that we kind of learning in our training, that they
- 19 were saying that we should have some individuals with
- 20 strong math skills or quantitative skills; also has done
- 21 demographic research, consulting firms, and he is an
- 22 active volunteer. I would like to put him as a
- 23 consideration on our Tentative list.
- MR. AHMADI: Let me just share some comments on
- 25 this one, perhaps starting with the reason I have an

1	unfavorable	vote	for	this	one,	coming	to	this	meeting.	Ι

- 2 think my main concern was about the limitation of
- 3 experience, maybe, and also there were some phrases taken
- 4 from the regulations, as part of the response, so just to
- 5 share with you some of the thoughts that I had on this
- 6 one. Looking back at the qualifications and the skills,
- 7 the description of abilities, to be able to do the job of
- 8 the Commission, I found her to be I found him, I am
- 9 sorry I found him to be qualified, and I have in my
- 10 notes as a good qualified individual, but, again, as we -
- 11 I do not know how many times I mentioned this, these
- 12 decisions are difficult, and when I compare to other
- 13 individuals that I have in mind, it did not seem as strong
- 14 at that time. But I would love to go back and take a
- 15 second look at the details, or maybe for the 6th time, I do
- 16 not know how many times I looked at these applications,
- 17 but I will take a look back and consider it, of course.
- MS. CAMACHO: Okay, thank you.
- 19 CHAIR SPANO: What impressed me about this
- 20 candidate is that he has experience in collecting
- 21 demographic data. He spent several years conducting
- 22 demographic and economic research for a small consulting
- 23 firm that provided demographics to school information, to
- 24 municipalities and other organizations. He is also
- 25 familiar with U.S. Census Bureau and Department of Finance

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1	İlsca⊥	products	tools,	and	geographic	categories.	Не

- 2 exhibited strong analytical skills directly related for
- 3 the work of the Commission. He has also coordinated all
- 4 aspects of Butte County's Adult-Juvenile Drug Court
- 5 Programs as an Analyst for the Superior Court of
- 6 California, County of Butte. I feel his experience has
- 7 direct applicable relevant qualities to Commission work
- 8 and I believe that we should move this candidate forward
- 9 for the Tentative pool of 40.
- MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.
- 11 MR. AHMADI: So, just like Mary said, even
- 12 though we have reached the 40 mark, I do have a few of my
- 13 strong Applicants here, Republicans that I would like to
- 14 introduce for reconsideration. Obviously I have voted yes
- 15 for these individuals, hoping that we would have unanimous
- 16 agreement on the favorable votes, but if you can please
- 17 reconsider Jeffrey Johnson, and this individual has great
- 18 qualifications and, in my judgment, brings a lot of
- 19 experiences and skills that will make the job of the
- 20 Commission successful. The letters of recommendation are
- 21 great, the content of the letters suggests further support
- 22 for the skills and qualifications. And so, the way this
- 23 individual states his interests in why he is applying, it
- 24 just impressed me, as well, because there are certain
- 25 elements that come across in terms of, you know, his

- 1 willingness to do whatever it takes to make the job of the
- 2 Commission successful. So there are certain values in
- 3 those kind of attributes, as well. So, in general terms,
- 4 I just want you to reconsider the qualifications on this
- 5 individual. And I believe this will add to the qualities
- 6 of the Commission, as a whole.
- 7 MS. CAMACHO: I agree with you, Nasir. He was
- 8 one of my 40 individuals and I felt, from looking at his
- 9 application, he was able to catch on things quickly, he
- 10 was able to communicate effectively, despite how technical
- 11 his background is, so he was able to put what he performs
- 12 in his job into terms where I was able to understand it,
- 13 so I was pretty impressed. I agree, I think we should put
- 14 him on the Tentative list to interview.
- MR. AHMADI: And I am so glad you also so those
- 16 soft values that are reflected in the responses to the
- 17 application, so I am glad.
- 18 CHAIR SPANO: I believe this candidate also
- 19 should be moved to the Tentative pool of 40, I think his
- 20 direct qualities exhibited and he explained a great
- 21 example of impartiality, and he represents Yolo County, he
- 22 is a Neuroscientist, he has strong critical thinking
- 23 skills, so I believe this Applicant would enhance the
- 24 Commission work, so I agree he should be moved to the
- 25 Tentative pool of 40.

l M	IR. AHMAI		
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- 2 CHAIR SPANO: I also have another candidate that
- 3 I would like to further discuss. Her name is Susan Levy,
- 4 L-e-v-y, Applicant No. 11686. I believe this Applicant
- 5 has very unique experience, educator that worked with a
- 6 lot of multi-cultural communities in California, Santa
- 7 Maria. She has previous redistricting experience for
- 8 drawing school boundary lines in Santa Maria. She is
- 9 really good at reaching consensus with diverse groups, she
- 10 had solid experience doing outreach to distinct
- 11 communities and reaching consensus. She is an educator
- 12 with lots of board experience, also, and again, she served
- 13 on the Board while they redrew the district lines.
- 14 MS. CAMACHO: This individual, I just it was
- 15 not clear to me through her descriptions how much she was
- 16 involved in items, or in her tasks, and I wish she had
- 17 just provided a little bit more detail; however, she does
- 18 have facilitator skills, board skills, she has leadership
- 19 skills that are there. She did work with the student
- 20 population. I think we should put her on the Tentative
- 21 list to interview.
- MR. AHMADI: I respect your suggestion, Kerri,
- 23 and even though I had an unfavorable vote on this one,
- 24 again, coming to this meeting, nothing in particular,
- 25 nothing in specifics, but collective quality of skills and

1	abilities,	in my	judgment,	was	not a	as strong	as	other

- 2 ones, but I would love to take a second look at this one
- 3 and look at the details one more time. So, I agree.
- 4 CHAIR SPANO: Thank you. So she will go into
- 5 the pool of 40.
- 6 MS. CAMACHO: I do not have any other Applicants
- 7 at this time that I would like to put in for
- 8 reconsideration, so if you, Nasir or Kerri, have anymore,
- 9 please do bring them up.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you. I do have two more,
- 11 actually. Can I introduce both of them, one after
- 12 another?
- MS. CAMACHO: Do you have anymore, Kerri?
- 14 CHAIR SPANO: I am trying to size up my list
- 15 right now.
- MS. CAMACHO: No problem.
- 17 MR. AHMADI: So the first that I want to
- 18 reintroduce for reconsideration is Raymond Jessen, and to
- 19 me, this was one of the Applicants that was included in my
- 20 initial favorable vote for 140, in the previous meeting we
- 21 all found him qualified, so he had a favorable vote from
- 22 all of us in the previous one. He is a Dermatologist at
- 23 Kaiser. The responses to qualifications and the way he is
- 24 describing his abilities to meet the requirements of that,
- 25 and also to be successful on the Commission, is very clear

- 1 and ideal for me. So, without getting into the details, I
- 2 would like to have you guys reassess this individual, and
- 3 I believe this will add to the qualities, to the mix of
- 4 the Commission to be successful. So I would appreciate if
- 5 you would reconsider this one.
- 6 CHAIR SPANO: Great. Actually, I was impressed
- 7 by this candidate's abilities, skills, and talents. Also,
- 8 he is a retired Dermatologist from, let's see, Placer
- 9 County. He has provided an application very well
- 10 developed, I was very impressed with his description of
- 11 his strengths, his abilities, he has a high regard and
- 12 respect for people. He understands communities of
- 13 interest at a grassroots and state level, he is committed,
- 14 he is a leader, and he has got great group skills. Mary,
- 15 what did you think?
- MS. CAMACHO: This individual is different than
- 17 all other candidates, he is very interesting and very
- 18 unique. He has board experience, but he also brings in a
- 19 doctor's perspective, so he is definitely working with a
- 20 diverse population. He is constantly seeing them. In his
- 21 application, you can see the dedication and hard work he
- 22 performs and how sincere he is. So, yes, I would like to
- 23 see him on our Tentative list to interview.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you so much.
- MS. CAMACHO: Do you mind if we take maybe a 10-

40

1 15 minute break? 2 CHAIR SPANO: Sure. 3 MR. AHMADI: I think - is it time? 4 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Me too. CHAIR SPANO: We will recess for 15 minutes. 5 6 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: It is 10:37, so 10:50? 7 Does that work? 8 CHAIR SPANO: Yeah, sounds good. 9 (Off the record at 10:37 a.m.) 10 (Back on the record at 11:02 a.m.) 11 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, it is 11:02 and we are back 12 on the record. Mary and Nasir, did you have any further 13 Applicants that you would like to discuss? 14 MR. AHMADI: Before we talk about the 15 Applicants, if I can make just a quick announcement, I 16 just learned that our system does not allow for a spell 17 check. I have not tested it, so - but the reason I wanted 18 to mention this or make this announcement is that my 19 concern about spelling errors on the applications are 20 diminished at this point because of that, so I just wanted 21 to make sure that it is on the record. 22 CHAIR SPANO: Thank you. 23 MR. AHMADI: Thanks. And I do not know, it 24 could be my math skills, but I think I mentioned I had two 25 more, but I actually have three more Applicants that I

1	would	like	to	suggest	for	reconsideration.	The	first	one
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- 2 is can I move forward, Madam Chair?
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: Oh, yes, please do.
- 4 MR. AHMADI: The first one is David Burdick.
- 5 And obviously this is one of the individuals that was in
- 6 my initial pile of 40 Applicants that I found as being
- 7 strong and most qualified. David has a Masters in
- 8 Physics, so that tells a lot about his analytical skills,
- 9 and collectively, when you look at the education and
- 10 experience, and the type of responsibility that this
- 11 individual has had, it suggests that the qualifications
- 12 for this Applicant are very competitive, and I would like
- 13 for the Panel members to please consider this for
- 14 including in the Tentative list of 40 Applicants.
- MS. CAMACHO: Originally, when I looked at this
- 16 Applicant, I was hoping for a little bit more detail in
- 17 the answers, however, going back and seeing some of this,
- 18 he has been on the school board of the local Unified
- 19 School District, which means he does have board
- 20 experience, most likely public comments, and I think that
- 21 would be very relevant to the Commissioner. So I would
- 22 not mind bringing him in for a Tentative interview.
- 23 MR. AHMADI: Thank you, I appreciate that. And
- 24 also, I think part of the description for the qualities
- 25 and response to his understanding of California's diverse

1 demographics and also in the Interest Sta

- 2 to go back and add that to the quality of the response for
- 3 that one, so, thank you.
- 4 CHAIR SPANO: This Applicant had worked 32 years
- 5 with the Naval Air Force Center, so he was most recently
- 6 as a technology manager. He is currently a Science and
- 7 Technology Advisor for an engineering company, he has got
- 8 lots of board experience with the school board, hospital
- 9 advisory body, homeowners association, and library
- 10 volunteer group. He has appreciation demonstrated by
- 11 advocating California to engineering students concerning a
- 12 move to California. With this Applicant, I believe that
- 13 the demonstration for appreciation and his diverse
- 14 demographics and geography was not as strong as others
- 15 that I have seen, I think that was one of his weaknesses,
- 16 but because you like this candidate, I am going to
- 17 consider him further for the pool of 40.
- 18 MR. AHMADI: Thank you. I appreciate that. I
- 19 have two more, so if you allow me?
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes, go ahead.
- 21 MR. AHMADI: The next individual that I would
- 22 like to suggest for reconsideration is Glen Priddy, P-r-i-
- 23 d-d-y. And, again, the reason I did that was, in my
- 24 judgment, the qualifications and skills and abilities of
- 25 this individual stands out as excellent for me and it

- 1 appears that there is also redistricting experience. The
- 2 reason I say "appears" is that I do not know at what level
- 3 I have to refresh my memory about the details, but in my
- 4 notes I have redistricting experience as one of the
- 5 valuable attributes that this individual can bring, or
- 6 contribute, so I would like the Panel to please reconsider
- 7 this individual as one of the top Tentative 40.
- 8 MS. CAMACHO: Do you have any -
- 9 CHAIR SPANO: Sure, Mary, I can go next. I
- 10 believe this is a gentleman from San Luis Obispo County
- 11 Area, he is in land surveying, so he has experience
- 12 creating land boundaries, like you were describing how he
- 13 had redistricting experience -
- MR. AHMADI: Right, thank you.
- 15 CHAIR SPANO: Let's see, he has 18 years
- 16 experience with the County Engineers Association of
- 17 California, so he has got group work and understands the
- 18 needs of various commute counties. He is also a Veteran.
- 19 He knows California history and geography well, also.
- 20 That is incredibly needed for Commission work, also.
- 21 Mary, your thoughts?
- MS. CAMACHO: Originally I was hoping for a
- 23 little bit more detail, but after listening to both of
- 24 what you have said, I am willing to put him in the
- 25 Tentative pool for interviewing.

1	MR.	AHMADI:	Thank	you	SO	much.	I	appreciate
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- 2 that. And the last one, or the last application that I
- 3 had on my desk, the Applicant name is Daniel Seagondollar.
- 4 Again, my assessment of the qualifications and skills that
- 5 this individual presents in the application material is as
- 6 excellent, comparably competitive, no doubt, so I would
- 7 like to have this individual back in the pool for
- 8 reconsideration. I believe this individual brings certain
- 9 attributes and skills that are relevant and applicable to
- 10 the Commission's work, and he is very well informed, based
- 11 on the way he describes the responses, based on his
- 12 responses to the questions. So I would like to have him
- 13 be reconsidered for Tentative placement on the pool of 40
- 14 Applicants for an interview.
- MS. CAMACHO: When comparing him to the other
- 16 Applicants, he it was a hard decision, and this was not
- 17 one of the ones that I did bring forward, but, however, I
- 18 would not mind putting him in the Tentative pool because
- 19 he does demonstrate an awareness of the varied geography
- 20 of the state and individuals residing in the different
- 21 localities, and that is definitely something that we need
- 22 the Commissioners to be aware of. So, I think we should
- 23 put him in the Tentative pool.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you so much.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: I also believe this candidate has

45

- 1 exhibited great strengths applicable to the Commission
- 2 work and he is well rounded in developing his responses.
- 3 He is a former Planning Commissioner in Apple Valley,
- 4 which falls under San Bernardino County. He has got good
- 5 impartiality, fabulous planning experience. He has been a
- 6 self-employed architect for almost 20 years. He is
- 7 familiar with general plans and structure, he has got
- 8 solid Commission experience, and adequate volunteer
- 9 experience, and just a good public service record. I
- 10 believe this candidate should also be moved forward to the
- 11 Tentative pool of 40 for interviewing.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
- 13 appreciate it.
- 14 MS. CAMACHO: Do you think we should read off -
- 15 are there any more? Because you were saying that you had
- 16 three more, is that all that you had to bring forward?
- MR. AHMADI: That is correct. At this point, I
- 18 do not have any Applicants on my list to bring forward.
- 19 CHAIR SPANO: I do not either, actually. He
- 20 mentioned one that I wanted to speak about, so I think he
- 21 covered that well for me. So since we have no further
- 22 Applicants to discuss for this Tentative Republican pool
- 23 at this time, should we have Counsel confirm the list that
- 24 we have right now?
- MS. CAMACHO: I think that would be a great

- 1 idea.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Mr. Ahmadi, do you want
- 4 to put me through the pain of last name first?
- 5 MR. AHMADI: I think I learned from yesterday's
- 6 experience and I am ready whichever way you want to read
- 7 it.
- 8 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Okay, we will go slowly.
- 9 I will not include Applicant I.D. right now, I will just
- 10 give you the names, and then perhaps you will want to take
- 11 public comment before you break to reconsider.
- 12 So here we are on our Tentative Pool of
- 13 Republicans for Interview. First is Christine Allcorn,
- 14 Kathleen Beasley, Robert Gonzales, Larry Kerr, Leilani
- 15 Kimmel-Dagostino, Martin Lax, Nancy Lyons, Sandor Mayuga,
- 16 Davin McAndrews, Gabriel Morales, Henry Norton, Lilbert
- 17 "Gil" Ontai, Roy Salume, Christine "Chris" Shipman, Gina
- 18 Simas, Charles Starr, James Vidal, Evelyn Volpa, Michael
- 19 Ward, Mary Werthman, Cecilia White, Ronald Wilczynski,
- 20 Peter Yao, Gene Lee, Wesley Hussey, Jeffrey Kwong, Peggy
- 21 Huang, Jodie Filkins-Webber, Detta Hunt, David Ikari,
- 22 Michael Briggs -
- MR. AHMADI: Was that David Ikari?
- 24 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: You are right, David
- 25 Ikari, I am sorry. I cannot read my own handwriting.

- 1 Michael Briggs, Vincent Barabba, Edward Duran, Elizabeth
- 2 Miller-Bougdanos, Susan Miller, Evelyn Zneimer, Bev Perry,
- 3 Alan Skip Jorgensen, Susan Bowers, Donna Beers, Oren
- 4 Banta, Jeffrey Johnson, Suzanne Levy, Raymond Jessen,
- 5 David Burdick, Glen Priddy, and Daniel Seagondollar.
- 6 Forty-seven, total, in your Tentative Pool.
- 7 MR. AHMADI: It agrees with my list. Thank you.
- 8 MS. CAMACHO: Yes, that agrees with mine also.
- 9 CHAIR SPANO: Did you want to mention something,
- 10 Mary?
- MS. CAMACHO: Since there are so many that we
- 12 will have to take a look at, I am thinking that there is
- 13 probably what is it, 23 or something that we are going
- 14 to have to take a look at, obviously we are going to be
- 15 taking public comment, but when we do take a break, I was
- 16 hoping that we could take a little bit longer break, may
- 17 an hour to hour and a half, so that would give us time to
- 18 take a look at this and also have a lunch break.
- 19 MR. AHMADI: I think that is a good idea.
- 20 CHAIR SPANO: Why don't we take an hour after we
- 21 hear from the public? Would that be adequate?
- MS. CAMAHO: Do you think an hour would be
- 23 adequate to look at 23, Nasir?
- 24 MR. AHMADI: Well, I think if we want to add the
- 25 lunch time to it, I think an hour and a half will give us

- 1 sufficient time. I am also willing to take two hours,
- 2 because we are doing very well on time.
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, we can take a half an hour -
- 4 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: An hour and a half.
- 5 CHAIR SPANO: What did I just say?
- 6 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: A half hour.
- 7 CHAIR SPANO: Oh, goodness. Okay, I did not
- 8 mean to say that. Yeah, an hour and a half is good. So
- 9 now that we have that out of the way -
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Do you want to take
- 11 public comment?
- 12 CHAIR SPANO: Yes, please. Are there any
- 13 members from the public that would like to speak at this
- 14 time about the 47 that we have discussed?
- MR. WRIGHT: Good morning. I am Jim Wright.
- 16 Referring to the list that I provided you yesterday of
- 17 individuals with Juris Doctorate, I now count that there
- 18 are nine of them among the 47 names that you have just
- 19 enumerated. And I have some concerns about a couple of
- 20 them. One of them, Michael Briggs, is counsel for Orange
- 21 County.
- MR. AHMADI: Could you repeat that name, please?
- MR. WRIGHT: Michael Briggs.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- MR. WRIGHT: Okay, he is the counsel for the

- 1 Orange County Board of Supervisors, I believe it is.
- 2 Peggy Huang works for the Department of Agriculture, and
- 3 very likely has contact with the Legislature.
- 4 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: I would just add, that is
- 5 probably not a purely accurate assumption. Having been a
- 6 state attorney for a long time, including having worked as
- 7 legislative counsel, my contact with the legislature has
- 8 been very minimal over 10 years, so I would caution not to
- 9 make that assumption.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you, Counsel.
- MR. WRIGHT: This is my opinion, only, okay?
- 12 Based on what I read, so you are welcome to take it with a
- 13 huge grain of salt if you will.
- MR. AHMADI: We will consider.
- MR. WRIGHT: Among the Juris Doctors, there is
- 16 also Edward Duran, Jodie Filkins-Webber, and Elizabeth
- 17 Miller-Bougdanos, and Evelyn Zneimer. I also have a
- 18 concern that there is one who is not a Juris Doctor, but
- 19 among the original 23 that each of you approved, that I
- 20 believe you should reconsider, and that is Nancy Lyons.
- 21 She works for the Governor in the Youth Gang Task Force.
- 22 There are also three Juris Doctors among those, Martin
- 23 Lax, Sandra Mayuga, and Gina Simas. So nine out of 47,
- 24 what does that work out to, a fifth, 20 percent? And my
- 25 original concern is we are a little heavy on people with

1	training as Juris Doctors. Thank you for your time.
2	CHAIR SPANO: Thank you for your comment.
3	MS. CAMACHO: Thank you.
4	CHAIR SPANO: Are there any further public
5	comments? Well, seeing no comment, I believe we should
6	take a recess for an hour and a half, so it is 11:18, so
7	should we reconvene at -
8	MS. CAMACHO: Want to just say 1:00?
9	CHAIR SPANO: We can convene around 1:00, make
10	it easy for everybody. Okay.
11	(Off the record at 11:19 a.m.)
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- 1:04 P.M.
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: We're back on the record, it's
- 4 1:04 p.m.

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- 5 We've had a chance, currently, to look at the
- 6 sub-pool as it exists, Tentatively, for 47 Applicants that
- 7 we discussed earlier.
- 8 We both -- we all, sorry, had a chance to look
- 9 at the Applicant pool. Have you both, you and Nasir, have
- 10 you taken a look and decided on some Applicants that you
- 11 may want to pull out to arrive at the 40?
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes, I have. This is so
- 13 difficult. These Applicants are so qualified and they
- 14 bring such diverse experiences into this mix, so this is
- 15 another -- it's going to be a hard one tomorrow, too, or
- 16 today, when we go on, if we go on.
- But I had to go through here and look at it here
- 18 because we have to get to the 40, so I did -- did find
- 19 some individuals that I would like to discuss.
- 20 Would you like me to bring up or did you want to
- 21 talk --
- MR. AHMADI: Just wanted to comment, agreeing
- 23 with you or echoing, you know, the fact that what you just
- 24 said that this is, perhaps, the most difficult step in the
- 25 process.

1 From this morning, you know, we were so anxiou	1	_				-				
I TOM CHIES MOTHERIA, AND VIIOM, ME METE 30 MINTON	l	F'rom	this	morning,	vou	know,	we	were	SO	anxıous

- 2 to bring individuals into the pool because we love all of
- 3 them and we want to have a good, diverse group, but now
- 4 we're faced with the challenge of taking some of these out
- 5 of the pool of 47 that we have, that we agreed to.
- 6 So, it is going to be challenging. I did spend
- 7 my time looking back at the details of the applications
- 8 and Applicant material. Even though it's difficult, I
- 9 know it's our responsibility to make sure that we are in
- 10 compliance with the law and have 40 of the most qualified
- 11 Applicants in the pool.
- 12 So, I do have a few that I wanted to share with
- 13 you and discuss that I think may be a good start.
- 14 CHAIR SPANO: I do, as well, I have a few
- 15 Applicants that I'd like to discuss. I noticed that we
- 16 have a lot of coverage in certain regions, that I think
- 17 who are -- whose Applicant skills and abilities may
- 18 complement other Applicants that are existing in the pool
- 19 of the Republicans, so we may be able to remove people,
- 20 still maintaining a good balance of people, with good
- 21 qualifications for our Commission.
- MR. AHMADI: Right, right. And as you said, you
- 23 know, at this point when we look at the geographic or
- 24 regional diversity and economic status, I think we have a
- 25 large group of South Coastal Region candidates.

- 1 CHAIR SPANO: Uh-hum.
- MR. AHMADI: So, one way to approach this would
- 3 be, if it makes it a little easier for us, to focus on
- 4 that regional diverse group, first, and then see if we can
- 5 agree on some applications in that area.
- 6 Is that something that you guys think you might
- 7 be willing to do?
- 8 CHAIR SPANO: Sure.
- 9 MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 10 CHAIR SPANO: Do you have a particular
- 11 candidate?
- MR. AHMADI: Yes.
- 13 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 14 MR. AHMADI: Since that's kind of like my
- 15 thought process when I looked back at these applications
- 16 and I focused on, you know, not only qualifications, but
- 17 also diversity as well.
- 18 So, the first individual -- again, this is so
- 19 difficult, they're all so talented and there's something
- 20 each one of them offer, which makes it difficult for us to
- 21 decide on these, but we have to.
- So, one of the Applicants that I believe Mary
- 23 suggested that we should reconsider was Detta Hunt. And
- 24 no doubt that this individual has excellent demonstration
- 25 of minimum qualifications and nice activities in the

1	church-related	community	involvement.	I	had	to	look	back

- 2 at the details of her state job responsibility, she's
- 3 working at the Social Services, I believe, and the Welfare
- 4 Program, at her level.
- 5 My recollection of the details in that type of
- 6 responsibility, or what she does, is she has
- 7 administrative responsibility over the processing of, you
- 8 know, perhaps, participants in the Welfare Program and at
- 9 the high level, maybe state level, like administrative
- 10 type responsibility. She has been greatly involved with
- 11 the counties and have participated in several of those
- 12 statewide projects, where she -- I'm sure that, you know,
- 13 it's wonderful experience for her and beneficial to the
- 14 program recipients.
- But, again, since we're looking for individuals
- 16 who may have more direct involvement with the communities
- 17 and the different demographic groups within the state, I
- 18 thought maybe this is a good candidate to focus on to see
- 19 if we can eliminate from the pool.
- But, again, I'm just introducing this for a
- 21 discussion and let's talk about this one.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: Actually, I did have her on my
- 23 list to possibly remove from the Applicant pool. She's
- 24 actually -- I know, Nasir, you brought up earlier today
- 25 that you wanted to talk about Southern Coastal or, right,

- 1 Applicants for --
- 2 MR. AHMADI: Yes, yes.
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: This Applicant happens to be from
- 4 Sacramento.
- 5 MR. AHMADI: Oh, okay.
- 6 CHAIR SPANO: And so I just -- if that's okay,
- 7 if you want to discuss --
- 8 MR. AHMADI: Well, actually, I have North
- 9 Central and South Coastal --
- 10 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 11 MR. AHMADI: -- that I wanted to focus on,
- 12 first, because of the diversity.
- 13 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- MR. AHMADI: So, you're correct.
- 15 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. So, I just wanted to
- 16 confirm that with you.
- MR. AHMADI: I appreciate it.
- 18 CHAIR SPANO: I agree that this Applicant's
- 19 qualifications, she's got good qualifications to offer as
- 20 a commissioner, but I believe that she has strengths that
- 21 are covered in other Applicants that we have remaining in
- 22 the pool, where maybe we really need to keep because they
- 23 represent some kind of characteristics that would actually
- 24 give a good balance to the Commission.
- MR. AHMADI: Correct, I agree.

- 1 MS. CAMACHO: I agree, her qualifications are
- 2 wonderful, however, she -- after looking at all the other
- 3 Applicants and comparing her to the other Applicants, I
- 4 agree that there's other Applicant's that have various
- 5 other qualities that she doesn't possess. And I agree
- 6 that we can remove her from the list.
- 7 MR. AHMADI: Okay. Thank you so much.
- 8 So, if I hear you correctly, then we are in
- 9 agreement to remove Detta Hunt --
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes.
- MR. AHMADI: -- from the Tentative pool of 47
- 12 that we had at the beginning of this session after the
- 13 break.
- 14 CHAIR SPANO: Yes.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIR SPANO: Nasir, Mary, did you want for us
- 17 to take turns?
- MS. CAMACHO: Yeah.
- 19 CHAIR SPANO: And maybe, see if you agree with
- any of ours.
- MR. AHMADI: Yes.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: And I know you have your list,
- 23 Mary may have her list, and I have mine.
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: See if we come in agreement with

- 1 those and we can discuss it further.
- MR. AHMADI: I think that's a very good idea.
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: Mary, would you like to bring
- 4 another candidate for discussion?
- 5 MS. CAMACHO: Yes. Since we kind of went to the
- 6 north and stuff and I know we're focusing on various
- 7 areas, I wanted to bring in this -- or I want to put this
- 8 person out for discussion. I know they're not in the two
- 9 areas that you were discussing, but I would like to
- 10 discuss Glen Priddy.
- 11 When I was looking at this Applicant and
- 12 comparing him to the other Applicants in this area, and as
- 13 the group in total, I really didn't see the variance of
- 14 experience that I saw in other candidates, also, in the
- 15 respect of providing more information on giving us a feel
- 16 of what those experiences were.
- So, I'd like to put him on the table for
- 18 possible elimination from the Tentative pool of
- 19 interviewees.
- 20 CHAIR SPANO: Nasir, did you have any comments
- 21 regarding this?
- MR. AHMADI: Yes, I'm sure I have, but let me
- 23 just quickly remind myself of all the details, just to
- 24 make sure.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.

1 M	R.	AHMADI:	Yeah.	this	was	an	individual	that	Ι

- 2 had a favorable vote for coming to this meeting and we
- 3 added back before lunch.
- 4 Again, I appreciate your sharing of those
- 5 thoughts and I think there's value in that. Even though
- 6 it's a difficult decision for me to say that, you know, my
- 7 notes here says that, you know, that this individual has
- 8 excellent qualifications.
- 9 But, of course, when I went back to the
- 10 application and looked at this, compared to the ones that
- 11 we already have in the pool, I can agree with you that
- 12 this may not -- this may be a good choice in terms of, you
- 13 know, elimination, so that we can reach our 40, even
- 14 though this is difficult for me to say. But in the
- 15 interest of, you know, achieving our objective, I'm
- 16 willing to agree with you on that one.
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: This gentleman, I think we have
- 18 coverage at least at the county level with this -- the
- 19 regional level if we choose to not -- to take him out of
- 20 the Tentative pool of 40.
- I believe, like you said earlier, that some of
- 22 the skills could be mirrored by others that are in the
- 23 pool right now.
- So, I would be willing to remove him from the
- 25 Tentative pool at this time.

- 1 MS. CAMACHO: Okay.
- 2 MR. AHMADI: So, just to make sure that we are
- 3 on the same page here, I think my intention with the
- 4 comment about the regional diversity was to see if we can
- 5 focus on those individuals that we can easily compare with
- 6 the ones we do have in the pool. But I'm okay if we
- 7 deviate from that.
- 8 CHAIR SPANO: Uh-hum.
- 9 MR. AHMADI: In other words, if you're still in
- 10 agreement, I think we should focus on that region first,
- 11 maybe, or if not, then we can discuss any Applicant that
- 12 you guys bring forward.
- 13 CHAIR SPANO: So, are you saying -- let me see
- 14 if I understand you correctly. Should we be focusing on
- 15 one region and compare their characteristics and skills,
- 16 is that what you're saying, before we move on and talk
- 17 about different --
- 18 MR. AHMADI: My initial thought was that since
- 19 we have to have diversity from different regions within
- 20 the state, and we do have a lot of Southern Coastal
- 21 candidates, at least my approach was to look at those
- 22 candidates compared to the rest of them.
- 23 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 24 MR. AHMADI: And, of course, you know, everybody
- 25 has equal chance and all that.

- 1 CHAIR SPANO: Uh-hum.
- 2 MR. AHMADI: But if we can start with that
- 3 region --
- 4 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, it looks --
- 5 MR. AHMADI: -- but that's just a suggestion
- 6 so --
- 7 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. So, the first one that we
- 8 took off, removed from the Tentative pool of 40 was from
- 9 Sacramento --
- MR. AHMADI: Correct.
- 11 CHAIR SPANO: -- so now we should, maybe, you're
- 12 suggesting focusing on the Southern Coastal Region?
- MR. AHMADI: That is correct.
- 14 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. So, I too -- and, Mary,
- 15 what are your thoughts on this, would that be easier for
- 16 you to focus on one Southern Region --
- MS. CAMACHO: Either way.
- 18 CHAIR SPANO: -- we can -- okay. Okay.
- MS. CAMACHO: Either way is fine with me.
- 20 Since, you know, we're hoping to just eliminate seven, I
- 21 don't know if that's a lot.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: Sure.
- MS. CAMACHO: But we can focus on one region at
- 24 a time.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.

1 MR. AHMADI:	I appreciate tha	t. And again, you
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- 2 know, I think my approach to this is that we have to have
- 3 40 individuals to be in compliance with our requirement
- 4 and we also have to be as reasonably diverse as possible.
- 5 CHAIR SPANO: Uh-hum.
- 6 MR. AHMADI: So, since we have a lot of --
- 7 there's nothing about Southern Coastal, of course, I know
- 8 that's Republican-based, maybe, but I think, again, that
- 9 would be my approach to look at the South Coastal, because
- 10 I do have a few in my file that I wanted to bring forward
- 11 for discussion.
- 12 CHAIR SPANO: So, as I hear you both, should we
- 13 table Priddy right now, the Applicant Priddy, P-r-i-d-d-y,
- 14 that we just discussed, and start focusing on Southern
- 15 Coastal and maybe the North Central Valley Region, and see
- 16 if we can come -- remove seven from those areas, first,
- 17 and then consider this Applicant or see where we are.
- MS. CAMACHO: Well, I think since we've already
- 19 kind of discussed him, we can move forward.
- 20 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. So, what is our decision on
- 21 that, just for clarification purposes?
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Why don't you focus on
- 23 the Southern Coastal Region moving forward?
- 24 CHAIR SPANO: Yeah, okay.
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: There's nothing permanent

- 1 until you make a vote.
- 2 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. I had a couple, I
- 3 believe, in the Southern Coastal area, also.
- 4 So, did you have one that you wanted to bring
- 5 up, in particular?
- 6 MR. AHMADI: Yes, I do.
- 7 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 8 MR. AHMADI: Do you want me to bring this one?
- 9 CHAIR SPANO: Sure, feel free.
- MR. AHMADI: Okay. Susan Bowers. And this is
- 11 an individual that we added to the pile before lunch and I
- 12 went back and looked at the details of the qualifications,
- 13 so I reconsidered this, as we agreed.
- 14 And I would like to -- again, it's difficult
- 15 because when I look back at the qualifications there was
- 16 certainly value in that. But I am willing -- I'm still
- 17 kind of holding my initial position on this as
- 18 unfavorable, so I'd like to suggest that this Applicant,
- 19 compared to the rest of the pool, is not as comparably
- 20 qualified and, therefore, maybe a good candidate for us to
- 21 consider for elimination.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: Actually, Susan Bowers was on my
- 23 list to remove from the Tentative pool, also. I believe
- 24 we have adequate coverage with her skills, although I was
- 25 impressed with her Applicant explanation for her responses

- 1 and her demonstration, but I understand our goal. And
- $2\,$ she -- and as I looked at her a little bit more in-depth,
- 3 I realized that she may have -- lacked in consensus and
- 4 group work.
- 5 So, I agree that our removing her from the
- 6 Tentative pool, I believe her other strengths would be
- 7 covered by other candidates.
- 8 MS. CAMACHO: Let me just take a quick look at
- 9 her, okay?
- 10 CHAIR SPANO: Sure, sure.
- 11 MS. CAMACHO: After taking another look at this
- 12 Applicant I feel comfortable putting -- or taking her off
- 13 the list. She does have many qualities; however, I think
- 14 a lot of the individuals in this pool do, also.
- So, I feel that we can take her off of our
- 16 Tentative interview list, yes.
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
- 19 CHAIR SPANO: Nasir, I had another, and Mary, I
- 20 have another Applicant from the L.A. Southern Coastal area
- 21 that I'd ask you to consider maybe removing from the
- 22 Tentative pool of 40 to move for interviews. Her name is
- 23 Susan Miller.
- 24 And when I looked at this Applicant, again, I
- 25 realized that many of her skills, her relevant skills,

1				7				
1	actually,	are	complemented	bу	other	candidates	existing	ın

- $2\,$ our pool. I think that I feel comfortable removing her,
- 3 knowing that I believe we'd have adequate coverage with
- 4 the existing 40.
- 5 MR. AHMADI: I agree with you, Kerri.
- 6 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 7 MR. AHMADI: Because we added this one before
- 8 lunch. I did not have a favorable vote for this
- 9 individual or for this candidate as we came to this
- 10 meeting, but I'm glad that we added her back in and we
- 11 looked at the application to make sure one more time.
- 12 And I agree with you that I'm still holding my
- 13 initial position of unfavorable vote compared to the rest
- 14 of the individuals who's currently in the pool of 47.
- 15 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 16 MR. AHMADI: So, I agree with you on that one.
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- MS. CAMACHO: I'm just taking another look at
- 19 her, okay?
- 20 CHAIR SPANO: No, that's fine, take your time,
- 21 Mary.
- MS. CAMACHO: Okay. Looking at her experience
- 23 and listening to what the other individuals are bringing
- 24 to this Commission, I feel that the skills and abilities
- 25 that she would bring forward would be covered by the other

- 1 Applicants. The only -- the only concern is I think she
- 2 does have strong -- so, I'd kind of like to -- can we just
- 3 table her for just a little bit and then see who else that
- 4 we bring forward.
- 5 CHAIR SPANO: Sure.
- 6 MR. AHMADI: Sure.
- 7 MS. CAMACHO: Would that be okay?
- 8 MR. AHMADI: Yeah.
- 9 MS. CAMACHO: So, we can put her on the
- 10 Tentative list, but kind of just put her on the side to
- 11 maybe pull back just if need be.
- MR. AHMADI: Sure, I think that's a good idea.
- 13 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 14 MS. CAMACHO: Okay. I would like to discuss
- 15 Jeffrey Johnson. He is -- now, he's from Northern
- 16 Central, I know that's kind of getting out of your guys'
- 17 area but --
- 18 MR. AHMADI: No, that's fine, that's fine.
- 19 MS. CAMACHO: -- I'm kind of looking at these
- 20 things.
- MR. AHMADI: No, I'm fine with that.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 23 MS. CAMACHO: Even though he does bring so many
- 24 qualities to the Panel -- or to the Commission, he would,
- 25 I just feel that looking at his community involvement,

<pre>1 it's I don't see it as being as prevalent as a lot or</pre>
--

- 2 the other Applicants. However, that's just what it seems
- 3 to me.
- 4 What do you think?
- 5 CHAIR SPANO: You know, I did have a chance to
- 6 look at this Applicant, again, if you don't mind me going,
- 7 Nasir?
- 8 MR. AHMADI: No problem.
- 9 CHAIR SPANO: And I didn't have him on my list,
- 10 but I would agree with you that I'm comfortable removing
- 11 him from the pool. I noticed that in his diversity
- 12 response he talks about demographic groups and discusses
- 13 economics, and location, and common interest, but he only
- 14 mentions like race in one sentence, and no acknowledgement
- 15 of ethnic, gender, or any of the -- anywhere else in the
- 16 response. I didn't know if he satisfied that area.
- But I think any of his strengths -- I know his
- 18 impartiality I felt was strong, but I believe that it
- 19 could be covered with another Applicant that we have, many
- 20 Applicants that we have existing in the pool at this time.
- 21 So, I'm comfortable removing him from the pool.
- MS. CAMACHO: Okay.
- 23 MR. AHMADI: Yeah, and this is an individual
- 24 that I proposed to be added back to the pool before lunch
- 25 and I appreciate you taking the time to look back at the

- 1 qualifications and application.
- 2 And I looked back at the details, as well. And
- 3 as you stated, even though this individual possesses
- 4 certain qualities and skills that I believe are impressive
- 5 since, again, we have to make the difficult decision of
- 6 eliminating individuals to reach our goal, I'll have to
- 7 agree with you that I'm okay to eliminate this individual.
- 8 MS. CAMACHO: Okay.
- 9 MR. AHMADI: So, just to make sure that we are
- 10 on the same page, how many -- based on my count we have so
- 11 far gone through five Applicants, and one of them is
- 12 tabled, so including the one that's tabled, so we have
- 13 four Applicants that we currently agree. And, of course,
- 14 we haven't voted, yet, so they're all, you know, equally
- 15 available for discussion.
- 16 But based on my count we have four so far that
- 17 we agree.
- 18 CHAIR SPANO: Correct.
- MS. CAMACHO: That's what I have.
- 20 CHAIR SPANO: That's what I have.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you, just to make sure.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: So, does anyone else have another
- 23 Applicant? I do, and so, Mary, do you have one, too?
- MS. CAMACHO: No, go ahead.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: Should I go next, or Nasir?

1	MR. AHMADI: By all means, yes.
2	CHAIR SPANO: Okay. I would like the Panel to
3	consider Raymond Jessen for possible removal of the 40
4	Tentative pool.
5	I'm not sure if any of you had a chance to look
6	at him, again, but
7	MR. AHMADI: I have, yes.
8	CHAIR SPANO: I felt that when I looked at
9	his responses and his qualifications, I felt that they
10	were covered in other areas and that regionally I think we
11	were okay with what we had, and the balance that we
12	obtained if we removed him from the Applicant pool.
13	I think his perspective on the Commission
14	regarding work is stellar, but I still believe that by
15	removing him from the Tentative pool we are still covered
16	with diversity, and all the other characteristics needed
17	in a good balance of talents, and skills, and abilities.
18	MR. AHMADI: Uh-hum.
19	CHAIR SPANO: How did you feel, Nasir?
20	MR. AHMADI: Yes, again, this is one of the
21	Applicants that I proposed to be added back and I
22	appreciate you taking a second look at the application and
23	reassessing the qualifications.
24	This individual, in my initial assessment, was
25	excellent qualifications. Obviously, there is a lot that

- 1 this individual offers and there's a lot of talent there.
- 2 ` But, again, if I have to take one off the list, I
- 3 think I'll be comfortable, when I compare the
- 4 qualifications from this application to the rest of the
- 5 pool, I'll be comfortable saying unfavorable to this one.
- 6 CHAIR SPANO: Uh-hum.
- 7 MR. AHMADI: So, I agree with you, Kerri, on
- 8 this one.
- 9 CHAIR SPANO: Oh, okay.
- MS. CAMACHO: After looking quickly through his
- 11 application, he has remarkable skills and abilities, but I
- 12 agree with you, Kerri and Nasir, that those skills and
- 13 abilities are covered and probably to a more degree with
- 14 some of the other Applicants that we have in the pool.
- 15 And I would feel comfortable moving him to -- or
- 16 removing him from the Tentative list.
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- MR. AHMADI: If I can --
- 19 CHAIR SPANO: Sure.
- 20 MR. AHMADI: Can I move for the next one or --
- 21 CHAIR SPANO: Yeah, go ahead. Yes.
- MR. AHMADI: Even though these are difficult
- 23 ones and I don't want to be the first one to say this, but
- 24 I have Elizabeth Miller-Bougdanos as the next one that I
- 25 think we should look at, and let's discuss the potential

- 1 for taking her off the list.
- 2 Again, this is an individual that we added
- 3 before lunch. The qualifications are excellent and I
- 4 can -- I don't want to go into the details at this point,
- 5 but I found, initially, when I read this, that all the
- 6 minimum qualifications were there and this is an excellent
- 7 candidate, a lot of talent there, a lot of experience and
- 8 a lot of skills.
- 9 But, again, we have to make the difficult
- 10 decision of removing. I believe we have six individuals
- 11 right now, including the one that's tabled, so this would
- 12 be the seventh one.
- And so, I'm willing to hear from you, if there's
- 14 anything that you want me to reconsider, I will do so.
- MS. CAMACHO: For -- I agree with you, Nasir.
- 16 After re-examining her application, because this is one of
- 17 the individuals I was hoping to discuss, when I looked at
- 18 her application I noticed that she really kind of focused
- 19 in on her work experience as, I think it was the lawyer
- 20 for the realtors.
- MR. AHMADI: Yes, mediator lawyer.
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes, and she kind of really
- 23 focused in on that and I didn't really see that much
- 24 community involvement.
- So, I would be comfortable removing her from the

- 1 Tentative list.
- MR. AHMADI: Okay. How about you, Kerri?
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: Well, yeah, I hear your concerns
- 4 about this candidate and I believe she's a -- she was a
- 5 mediator, is that correct? Let me see. I did like this
- 6 candidate, the way she developed her responses and the
- 7 strength she could bring to the Commission.
- 8 However, I believe that her skills and abilities
- 9 may be covered by another candidate existing, or other
- 10 candidates existing in the pool that we haven't discussed
- 11 so far.
- 12 So, I believe that we have adequate coverage at
- 13 the county level, even, for this Applicant. So, I'm
- 14 comfortable removing her from the Tentative pool of 40.
- MR. AHMADI: Okay, thank you so much.
- 16 CHAIR SPANO: Uh-hum.
- MR. AHMADI: So, at this point we have seven
- 18 individuals that we discussed, including the one that's
- 19 tabled. And I would like to suggest that we go back to
- 20 the one that's tabled before we move forward.
- 21 CHAIR SPANO: Uh-hum.
- MS. CAMACHO: Can I just take a quick look at
- 23 this and then I'll be able to kind of -- I can probably
- 24 discuss Ms. Miller, if that's possible with you guys?
- MR. AHMADI: Sure, that's fine.

1	CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
2	MS. CAMACHO: Okay.
3	I, after looking at everything, I'd like to
4	still have Ms. Miller tabled for right now, if possible.
5	MR. AHMADI: Okay.
6	CHAIR SPANO: Actually, I'd like to bring
7	someone forward for discussion, if that's okay with you?
8	MR. AHMADI: Sure.
9	CHAIR SPANO: There is another person I'd like
10	to have you both consider removing from the Tentative pool
11	at this time, the name is Wesley the Applicant's name
12	is Wesley Hussey.
13	As I was looking at my balance of candidates, I
14	realized that I did originally feel very strongly about
15	his qualifications and what he can add to the Commission
16	because he's a teacher that teaches exercises on
17	redistricting, and he's very familiar with it.
18	However, I know that we may have I realize
19	that we may have adequate coverage for this region, as
20	well as his skills in other various regions that represent
21	the Applicant pool as it exists.
22	So, I'm comfortable removing this Applicant from
23	the Tentative pool for further consideration, for further

25 I don't know how you -- if you both had a chance

24

interviews.

- 1 to look at this Applicant, yet?
- MR. AHMADI: I did. And, initially, my vote
- 3 was -- this was one of the Applicants who was in my list
- 4 of 40 that I was hoping to move forward. And I added this
- 5 before lunch and I appreciate, again, that you have taken
- 6 the time to reassess the qualifications.
- 7 This individual, in my judgment, brings certain
- 8 qualities and attributes to the Commission's work, I
- 9 believe this is the Sac State professor -- I mean, not
- 10 that I believe I know that this is the Sac State
- 11 professor, but he's an expert in government studies.
- In my view, this was the best young individual
- 13 that I had come across so far from what we have looked at,
- 14 compared to the rest of the Applicants.
- But again, because we have to make the difficult
- 16 decisions of moving forward, I heard you saying that this
- 17 individual is one of the candidates from North Central
- 18 Sacramento Region, so on that reason, only, I'm willing to
- 19 accept that we can remove this individual to the no pile.
- 20 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 21 MS. CAMACHO: After looking at his application,
- 22 I agree with you, Kerri and Nasir, that this was one of
- 23 the people that I agree with Nasir on that, you know, he
- 24 was a great Applicant.
- 25 However, comparing him to the other Applicants

- 1 in the pool, I feel that I would be comfortable with
- 2 removing him from the Tentative list.
- MR. AHMADI: Okay. So, at this point we have
- 4 removed, if I may count them one more time just to make
- 5 sure, I have seven that we have agreed to remove from the
- 6 list.
- 7 Of course, we can bring them back in, but at
- 8 this point we have seven and that is not including the one
- 9 that we have tabled.
- 10 So, maybe it's a good time for you, Mary, to
- 11 discuss the one that's tabled to see if we should still
- 12 keep it or remove it.
- MS. CAMACHO: Okay. Okay. After looking at
- 14 some of the information or a lot of the information that I
- 15 have here, I would feel comfortable with keeping her in
- 16 the Tentative list for interviews. I think she brings
- 17 strong skills and very -- skills that would be very
- 18 relevant and needed in the board -- or in the Commission.
- 19 Do you feel that or are you guys still looking?
- 20 MR. AHMADI: I'm still looking --
- MS. CAMACHO: Okay, go ahead.
- MR. AHMADI: -- and referring to my notes. But
- 23 just give me one second, please.
- 24 CHAIR SPANO: Mary, you just mentioned, when you
- 25 were talking about Miller, you feel comfortable, now,

- 1 about leaving her in?
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes.
- 3 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. I do, as well. And I do
- 4 want to hear Nasir's thoughts, though.
- 5 MR. AHMADI: Sure. One concern that I have on
- 6 this one is, again, the law requires us to pay attention
- 7 to diversity, geographic and economic status, including
- 8 other elements.
- 9 Not that I have a solid position on this at this
- 10 point but just -- I'm sure that you guys are aware of this
- 11 and you're focusing on this, but just to draw your
- 12 attention to the number of Applicants that we have at this
- 13 point in time from the Southern Coastal Region.
- And if you guys are okay with that, I'm okay.
- 15 But I have some hesitation, especially the Applicant that
- 16 we discussed prior to this one, or the last one that we
- 17 discussed, Wesley Hussey, you know.
- I don't know, it's difficult to say -- to easily
- 19 say no, based on the qualifications, and the skills, and
- 20 the value that comes across.
- 21 So, do you guys have any thoughts for -- in that
- 22 regard, in terms of the fact that we have a lot of
- 23 individuals from -- not a lot, but from Southern Coastal,
- 24 even though I understand that Southern Coastal has -- we
- 25 had a lot of applications from the Republicans from that

- 1 region.
- 2 CHAIR SPANO: Correct.
- 3 MR. AHMADI: And it's okay to have more, as long
- 4 as they are qualified. But I just wanted to maybe just
- 5 bring that to your attention one more time.
- 6 CHAIR SPANO: Sure. Sure. My concern about
- 7 that, I realized that we did start off with a lot of
- 8 Applicants in that region. And for that reason, I think
- 9 as we reduce and make the cut to 40, I think it's a
- 10 natural progression that we're going to have a more
- 11 significant representation in L.A. and the Southern
- 12 Coastal area.
- 13 I also realize that the breakdown between female
- 14 and male is also a great -- it's not fairly equal, but I
- 15 know it's not supposed to be. I'm trying to get it so
- 16 that it represents a good pool and balance.
- MR. AHMADI: Sure.
- 18 CHAIR SPANO: As well as looking at other areas
- 19 that I feel are, maybe could be compensated in any areas
- 20 that we need to make up.
- 21 So, at this point, I, personally, would like to
- 22 check to see who we've got.
- MR. AHMADI: Sure.
- 24 CHAIR SPANO: And agreed on so far to be removed
- 25 from the Tentative pool for further review.

- 1 So, Mary, what do you think, should we confirm
- 2 the list to see where we are?
- 3 MS. CAMACHO: Yeah, let's -- do you mind if
- 4 maybe we take maybe a ten-minute break?
- 5 CHAIR SPANO: Sure.
- 6 MS. CAMACHO: Just so I can take a look at these
- 7 numbers, I need to --
- 8 CHAIR SPANO: Sure, but can we confirm the list
- 9 that we have, so that I know what we're going --
- MS. CAMACHO: Oh, yes.
- 11 CHAIR SPANO: I just want to have clarification
- 12 and confirm what we've agreed on so far, before I make any
- 13 further discussions of any Applicants.
- MR. AHMADI: Sure.
- 15 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 16 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Okay. So, do you want me
- 17 to list the individuals that you've agreed to take out
- 18 right now?
- 19 CHAIR SPANO: Yes, that is easier for me.
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Would that be easiest for
- 21 you? Okay.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: Or for, as well as Mary or Nasir,
- 23 is that okay?
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes.
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Okay.

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- 1 MR. AHMADI: Yes.
- 2 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: I think I have this
- 3 right. I believe you've agreed to take out Detta Hunt,
- 4 Elizabeth Miller-Bougdanos, Susan Bowers, Jeffrey Johnson,
- 5 Raymond Jessen, and Glen Priddy.
- I think you've also taken out Wesley Hussey,
- 7 although I hear there's some discussion about him. And I
- 8 think you've also taken out Susan Miller, but I'm not sure
- 9 that you've actually decided on that firmly, yet.
- 10 So, those are the two that I still have -- I'm
- 11 not sure that you've resolved that one, yet.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you. That, agree, reconciles
- 13 with my list.
- 14 Wesley Hussey, I think we did decide to take
- 15 out, but since one of the Applicants that Mary had tabled,
- 16 Susan Miller, I believe is correct, I brought that back in
- 17 to compare with who was tabled. And I strongly suggest
- 18 that she should take a second look at Susan Miller versus
- 19 Wesley Hussey as we go to a break.
- MS. CAMACHO: Okay.
- 21 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, I'm confused. Let's see,
- 22 we've got Bowers, right?
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: As coming out, yes.
- 24 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, Hunt?
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yes.

1 CHAIR SPANO: Hussey? 2 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yes. 3 CHAIR SPANO: Jessen? 4 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yes. 5 CHAIR SPANO: Priddy? 6 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yes. 7 CHAIR SPANO: Johnson? 8 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yes. 9 CHAIR SPANO: Miller-Bougdanos? 10 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yes. 11 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. 12 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: And maybe Miller. 13 MS. CAMACHO: Yeah. 14 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: I'm not sure whether 15 we're at seven or eight at this point. CHAIR SPANO: Okay, so that's seven. And we're 16 17 still considering Miller? 18 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Seven without Miller. 19 CHAIR SPANO: Without Miller, okay. 20 MS. CAMACHO: And then, also, Nasir also said 21 that we should reconsider Hussey. Is it Wesley Hussey? 22 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yes. MR. AHMADI: Yes. 23 24 MS. CAMACHO: Yes, Wesley Hussey. 25 MR. AHMADI: Yes, thank you.

- 1 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- 2 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: So, I think you firmly
- 3 agree on six right now, but two are still up in the air.
- 4 MR. AHMADI: Correct. And the two are, one more
- 5 time, Wesley Hussey and Susan Miller.
- 6 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Correct.
- 7 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. So, shall we go back and
- 8 take a short time, a short break, a recess to look at it
- 9 and see how we feel about it, or do you want to discuss
- 10 this further right now?
- MS. CAMACHO: I --
- MR. AHMADI: Madam Chair? I'm sorry for
- 13 interrupting.
- Do you think it's a good time to take public
- 15 comments?
- 16 CHAIR SPANO: Sure.
- MR. AHMADI: At this point, before we go to the
- 18 break, so that we can consider that as well.
- 19 CHAIR SPANO: Sure. Is the public clear on how
- 20 many Applicants that we have decided to remove from the
- 21 seven right now? Would anybody like to comment on that?
- Seeing that there's no comment, why don't we
- 23 break for about 15 minutes. It's 1:50, did you want to go
- 24 until 2:05?
- MS. CAMACHO: Sounds good.

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1 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. 2 MR. AHMADI: Thank you so much. CHAIR SPANO: Let's recess until 2:05. 3 4 (Off the record at 1:50 p.m.) 5 (Back on the record at 2:06 p.m.) 6 CHAIR SPANO: We're back on the record, it's 7 2:06 p.m. 8 I wanted to ask the Panel, as I went back to 9 size up the seven --10 MS. CAMACHO: I -- sorry. Butterfly clip that 11 fell off. 12 CHAIR SPANO: Oh, okay. 13 MS. CAMACHO: Holds our tablecloths on. 14 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. 15 MS. CAMACHO: I have somebody that I'd like to 16 discuss, to see if we can maybe, possibly discuss that person. Because I agree that Miller and Wesley Hussey 17 18 kind of bring unique qualities. 19 And I'm -- when I went back and I took a look at 20 this other individual that we haven't discussed, yet, that 21 I'll bring up, I'm thinking that maybe we should consider 22 this individual for elimination from our list. 23 CHAIR SPANO: Our Tentative 40? 24 MS. CAMACHO: Yes. 25 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. Before we go, Mary, may I CALIFORNIA REPORTING, LLC 82

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- 1 bring something up?
- 2 Just for clarification purposes, as I was going
- 3 through my list and I recall counsel listing the seven
- 4 people that we thought for removal, I remember when we
- 5 were discussing Wesley Hussey that the Panel agreed that
- 6 he should be Tentatively removed. I don't remember
- 7 tabling him at any point.
- 8 And, Mary, what did you think, I don't remember.
- 9 I mean, that was my recollection before we left this,
- 10 before recess.
- MR. AHMADI: I --
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: I don't think you have
- 13 anything to officially table because there's not a motion
- 14 pending.
- 15 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. But I don't remember the
- 16 Panel agreeing to reconsider this candidate, like we did
- 17 with Miller, so I was just -- I was just concerned.
- 18 MR. AHMADI: If I can add a comment because this
- 19 was --
- 20 CHAIR SPANO: Sure, yeah.
- 21 MR. AHMADI: -- it was me to bring him back to
- 22 the discussion. Because my understanding is that at this
- 23 point, even thought we agreed on the seven or six as
- 24 Tentatively to be removed from the Applicant pool, they're
- 25 all subject to discussion and we can bring anybody back

- 1 into the discussion, that's my understanding, until we
- 2 have the motion.
- 3 We do not have the motion, yet.
- 4 CHAIR SPANO: No, that's my understanding.
- 5 MR. AHMADI: So, that was my reason for
- 6 mentioning him back in because my initial thought was
- 7 moving forward with the process and, as I stated several
- 8 times, it's so difficult when you compare qualifications
- 9 of one Applicant with another. But then, since we have
- 10 Ms. Miller on the table for discussion, I just thought
- 11 maybe for reconsideration to bring this individual back in
- 12 because my initial assessment of the qualifications was as
- 13 excellent.
- So, I just wanted to give another chance for us
- 15 to look at this individual so --
- 16 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. And as I look at the pool
- 17 as it is right now, considering the seven I think that we
- 18 have on the table to be removed, I believe we have a
- 19 deficiency in maybe one of the diversity characteristics,
- 20 such as gender, and I think we should consider, carefully,
- 21 if when we remove any females further from the -- from
- 22 further consideration, because there was such a disparity
- 23 to begin with.
- 24 And so, I just was thinking that maybe the pool,
- 25 itself, is pretty balanced, but as we make more

- 1 suggestions on who should remain in the pool for Tentative
- 2 interviews that --
- 3 MR. AHMADI: I agree.
- 4 CHAIR SPANO: -- you know, that we keep that in
- 5 mind.
- 6 MR. AHMADI: Sure.
- 7 CHAIR SPANO: Yeah.
- 8 MS. CAMACHO: The individual I'd like to discuss
- 9 and, basically, we have seven individuals that would
- 10 include the Wesley Hussey and not Susan Miller, so I can
- 11 kind of go over the individuals.
- 12 But I'm suggesting, I kind of agree with Nasir
- 13 that Wesley Hussey brings a lot of skills and qualities
- 14 I'd like to see represented in the Commission.
- 15 And I am suggesting that we discuss David
- 16 Burdick.
- 17 MR. AHMADI: Okay. Thank you, Mary.
- 18 MS. CAMACHO: When I went and revisited this
- 19 person's application, he is very highly intellectual, very
- 20 well schooled. What kind of concerns me with this
- 21 Applicant is I am unsure if he would be able to talk with
- 22 the communities of interest, because this is individuals
- 23 that are -- represent all of California.
- 24 And when I was reading his application it was,
- 25 in some respects, kind of hard for me to read because it

- 1 was technical in nature, so there was some aspects I was
- 2 getting a little bit lost in.
- I understand that he's, you know, very well
- 4 qualified, but I'm not sure if he would be a good fit to
- 5 put on the Commission because I'm not sure about the
- 6 ability to really interact with the communities of
- 7 interest and the public, as well as Wesley Hussey and
- 8 Susan Miller.
- 9 MR. AHMADI: So, this makes it even harder, I
- 10 guess, huh?
- MS. CAMACHO: Yes.
- MR. AHMADI: So, basically, if I compare Wesley
- 13 Hussey with David Burdick, just looking at my notes and my
- 14 recollection of the details, and looking back at the
- 15 historic votes on these individuals, as you are aware Mr.
- 16 Hussey had three votes at the initial review and then
- 17 three votes at the last review, and I still voted for him,
- 18 and he was one of my favorites.
- 19 On the other hand, David Burdick, initially I --
- 20 he's one of my favorites, as well, so I always voted for
- 21 him as being one of the qualified and most qualified, I
- 22 guess, when we compare to the rest of the pool.
- 23 If I have to make a decision between these two
- 24 individuals, I'll have to agree with you, Mary, that David
- 25 Burdick may be the one that I would like to eliminate.

- 1 CHAIR SPANO: I believe when I was looking at
- 2 Burdick again, and according to my notes early on, I did
- 3 write something about potential for leading a meeting and
- 4 his leadership abilities that were maybe a little strong,
- 5 and I thought maybe it would hurt the team environment and
- 6 how they operate together, and achieve consensus.
- 7 And so, I'm comfortable removing this Applicant
- 8 for further consideration, and so I agree, yeah.
- 9 MS. CAMACHO: Okay.
- 10 CHAIR SPANO: So, it is my understanding that
- 11 Wesley Hussey remains for further consideration and we
- 12 have now removed Mr. Burdick from further consideration,
- 13 and so I believe we're at seven now.
- So, according to my list, I wanted to confirm
- 15 with you and Nasir --
- MR. AHMADI: Yes.
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: -- the following individuals that
- 18 we've removed from further consideration for the
- 19 Republican Pool.
- 20 Susan Bowers, Detta Hunt, Raymond Jessen, David
- 21 Burdick, Glen Priddy, Jeffrey Johnson --
- MR. AHMADI: Did you say Glen?
- 23 CHAIR SPANO: Glen Priddy, P-r-i-d-d-y.
- MR. AHMADI: Got it, thank you.
- 25 CHAIR SPANO: And Ms. Miller-Bougdanos.

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- 1 Elizabeth Miller-Bougdanos.
- 2 Are those the seven that you also have, too,
- 3 Mary?
- 4 MS. CAMACHO: Yes, they are.
- 5 CHAIR SPANO: And Nasir?
- 6 MR. AHMADI: And those are the seven that I have
- 7 on my list for elimination, yes.
- 8 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. At this time, are you
- 9 comfortable with the seven?
- MR. AHMADI: I am, yes.
- 11 CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
- MS. CAMACHO: I am, also.
- 13 CHAIR SPANO: So, that would bring us down to 40
- 14 as we have it.
- 15 So, should we take public comment or confirm the
- 16 list, first, before we -- the list of 40 before we take
- 17 public comments?
- 18 MR. AHMADI: If I can make a suggestion, I'm
- 19 sorry, before we move to the public comment session, if we
- 20 can read the names one more time, just to make sure of the
- 21 ones who are counted in the Tentative list of 40?
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: I'll read you the 40,
- 23 yes.
- MR. AHMADI: Thank you so much.
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Would you like me to

include their Applicant IDs, as well? 1 2 MR. AHMADI: Would you, please? 3 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yes. 4 MR. AHMADI: Thank you. 5 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: And may I go first name 6 first? 7 MR. AHMADI: Okay, I got it. 8 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Christine Allcorn, 9 Applicant ID 13174. 10 Kathleen Beasley, Applicant ID 22713. 11 Robert Gonzales, Applicant ID 11438. 12 Larry Kerr, Applicant ID 32486. Leilani Kimmel-Dagostino, Applicant ID 19379. 13 14 Martin Lax, Applicant ID 3534. 15 Nancy Lyons, Applicant ID 4646. Sandor Mayuga, Applicant ID 33484. 16 17 Davin McAndrews, Applicant ID 30538. 18 Gabriel Morales, Applicant ID 3051. 19 Henry Norton, Applicant ID 27424. 20 Lilbert "Gil" Ontai, Applicant ID 342. 21 Roy Salume or Salume, Applicant ID 32975. Christine "Chris" Shipman, Applicant ID 4157. 22 23 Gina Simas, Applicant ID 6276. 24 Charles Starr, Applicant ID 21487. 25 James Vidal, Applicant ID 9056.

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25		MR. AHMADI: Thank you so much, that agrees with
24		And Wesley Hussey, Applicant ID 31432.
23		Susan Miller, Applicant ID 7578.
22		Daniel Seagondollar, Applicant ID 20861.
21	11686.	
20		Susanne Levy, or Levy, Applicant ID
19		Orrin Banta, Applicant ID 30854.
18		Donna Beers, Applicant ID 27703.
17		Alan "Skip" Jorgensen, Applicant ID 1915.
16		Bev Perry, Applicant ID 10948.
15		Evelyn Zneimer, Applicant ID 7268.
14		Edward Duran, Applicant ID 5896.
13		Vincent Barabba, Applicant ID 3353.
12		Michael Briggs, Applicant ID 21387.
11		David Ikari, Applicant ID 3368.
10		Jodie Filkins Webber, Applicant ID 21683.
9		Petty Huang, Applicant ID 1458.
8		Jeffrey Kwong, Applicant ID 6467.
7		Gene Lee, Applicant ID 8216.
6		Peter Yao, Applicant ID 16250.
5		Ronald Wilezynski, Applicant ID 16258.
4		Cecilia White, Applicant ID 11068.
3		Mary Werthman, Applicant ID 4242.
2		Michael Ward, Applicant ID 33384.
1		Evelyn Volpa, Applicant ID 24641.

- 1 my list.
- 2 CHAIR SPANO: So, at this time should we take
- 3 public comment?
- 4 MR. AHMADI: Yeah, I think so, yeah.
- 5 CHAIR SPANO: Okay. The members of the public
- 6 like to come forward and speak on behalf of this pool,
- 7 Tentative pool that we have developed?
- 8 No, okay.
- 9 MR. AHMADI: I think we are doing a good job,
- 10 huh?
- 11 CHAIR SPANO: It's tough.
- MR. AHMADI: It is.
- 13 CHAIR SPANO: So, I guess --
- MS. CAMACHO: Do you want me -- I can make the
- 15 motion and that way you don't have to read off all the
- 16 names, again?
- 17 CHAIR SPANO: Oh, I don't mind.
- MS. CAMACHO: Oh, you don't mind?
- 19 CHAIR SPANO: If you want, that's fine with me.
- MS. CAMACHO: No, Steph's been doing a fabulous
- 21 job, so thanks.
- 22 CHAIR SPANO: Okay, feel free, go ahead. Shoot
- 23 Mary, yeah.
- MS. CAMACHO: Okay. I move that we interview
- 25 the following 40 Applicants, who are -- who are affiliated

- 1 with the Republican Party
- 2 And sorry if I mispronounce you.
- 3 Christine Allcorn, Applicant number 13174.
- 4 Kathleen Beasley, Applicant 22713.
- 5 Robert Gonzales, Applicant number 11438.
- 6 Applicant Larry Kerr, Applicant ID number 32486.
- 7 Applicant Leilani Kimmel-Dagostino, Applicant
- 8 number 19379.
- 9 Applicant Martin Lax, Applicant ID number 3534.
- 10 Applicant Nancy Lyons, Applicant ID number 4646.
- 11 Applicant Sandor Mayuga, Applicant ID number
- 12 33486.
- MR. AHMADI: Four eight four.
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: It's 33484.
- MS. CAMACHO: Oh, sorry, 33484.
- MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Correct.
- MS. CAMACHO: Applicant Davin McAndrews,
- 18 Applicant ID number 30538.
- 19 Applicant Gabriel Morales, Applicant ID number
- 20 3051.
- 21 Applicant Henry Norton, Applicant ID number
- 22 27424.
- 23 Applicant Lilbert "Gil" Ontai, Applicant ID
- 24 number 342.
- 25 Applicant Roy Salume, Applicant ID number 32975.

1 Applicant Christine "Chris" Shipman, Applicant 2 ID number 4157. 3 Applicant Gina Simas, Simas --4 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Simas. 5 MS. CAMACHO: Simas, Applicant ID number 6276. 6 Applicant Charles Starr, Applicant ID number 7 21487. 8 Applicant James Vidal, Applicant ID number 9056. 9 Applicant Evelyn Valopa --10 MR. AHMADI: Volpa. 11 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Volpa. 12 MS. CAMACHO: Volpa. MR. AHMADI: Yes. 13 14 MS. CAMACHO: Applicant ID number 24641. 15 Applicant Michelle --16 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Michael. 17 MS. CAMACHO: Michael Ward, Applicant ID number 18 33384. 19 Applicant Mary Weatherman --20 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Werthman. 21 MS. CAMACHO: Werthman, Applicant number 4242. 22 Applicant Cecilia White, Applicant ID number 23 11068. 24 Applicant Ronald --25 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Wilczynski. CALIFORNIA REPORTING, LLC

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1 MS. CAMACHO: -- Applicant ID number 16258. 2 Applicant Peter --3 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Yao. 4 MS. CAMACHO: -- Yao, Applicant ID number 16250. 5 Applicant Gene Lee, Applicant ID number 8216. 6 Applicant --7 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Jeffrey Kwong. 8 MS. CAMACHO: -- Jeffrey Kwong, Applicant ID 9 number 6467. 10 Applicant Peggy Huang --11 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Huang. 12 MS. CAMACHO: -- Huang, Applicant ID number 13 1458. 14 Applicant Judy Filkins Webber --15 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Jody. 16 MS. CAMACHO: Is that Jody? 17 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Jody Filkins Webber. 18 MS. CAMACHO: Applicant ID number 21683. 19 Applicant David Ikari, Applicant ID number 3368. 20 Applicant Michael Briggs, Applicant ID number 21 21387. 22 Applicant Vincent --23 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Barabba. 24 MS. CAMACHO: -- Barabba, Applicant ID number 3353. 25

1 Applicant Edward Duran --2 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Duran. 3 MS. CAMACHO: -- Applicant ID number 5896. 4 Applicant Evelyn --5 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Zneimer. 6 MS. CAMACHO: -- Applicant ID number 7268. 7 Applicant Bev Perry, Applicant number 10948. 8 Applicant Alan Jorgensen, Applicant ID number 9 1915. 10 Applicant Donna Beers, Applicant ID number 11 27703. 12 Applicant --13 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Orrin Banta. 14 MS. CAMACHO: -- Orrin Banta, Applicant ID 15 number 30854. 16 Applicant Susanne Levy -- Levy -- Applicant ID 17 11686. 18 Applicant Danielle -- or Daniel --19 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Seagondollar. 20 MS. CAMACHO: -- Seagondollar, Applicant ID 21 number 20861. 22 Applicant Susan Miller, Applicant ID 7578. 23 Applicant Wesley Hussey, Applicant ID 31432. 24 MR. AHMADI: I agree with that list. 25 MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Is there a second? CALIFORNIA REPORTING, LLC 95

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1	CHAIR SPANO: Second.
2	MR. AHMADI: I second that, that's what I meant.
3	CHAIR SPANO: All in favor?
4	(Ayes.)
5	CHAIR SPANO: All opposed?
6	MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: All in favor say aye.
7	CHAIR SPANO: All in favor say aye?
8	(Ayes.)
9	CHAIR SPANO: All opposed?
10	There being no opposition, the motion is
11	carried.
12	I'd like to also propose a second motion, that
13	we move to eliminate from the Applicant pool all remaining
14	Republican Applicants.
15	Is there a second?
16	MS. CAMACHO: I second that.
17	CHAIR SPANO: All in favor say aye?
18	(Ayes.)
19	CHAIR SPANO: All opposed?
20	The motion is carried.
21	At this time it appears that the work that we
22	have been scheduled to do today has been completed. Is
23	there any general public comment at this time?
24	Seeing no further comment, Mary, Nasir, would
25	you agree that we should recess for this time or

1	MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: I should state for the
2	record, and you already know this so there's not reason
3	for you to bring it up, we did receive two written
4	comments, both of which have been provided to you and
5	copies have been made available at the back of the room.
6	CHAIR SPANO: Yes.
7	MS. RAMIREZ-RIDGEWAY: Those are part of the
8	record, even though they're not here to read them in.
9	CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
10	MR. AHMADI: Thank you.
11	CHAIR SPANO: Okay. So, I recommend that we
12	recess until further, until tomorrow morning at 9:30.
13	MS. CAMACHO: I agree with you.
14	MR. AHMADI: Nine-thirty tomorrow morning.
15	CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
16	MR. AHMADI: I appreciate that, thank you.
17	CHAIR SPANO: Okay.
18	(Thereupon, the hearing was recessed
19	at 2:29 p.m.)
20	000
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